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SOME SOCIAL TOPICS.

THE disclosures before the Sheffield Commission proceed. Another murderer has made his confession, not, apparently, because he repented of his deed, but because he feared that he would be anticipated in his vile tale by an accomplice. Benschaw is the name of this worthy, and so recklessly did he

go about his abominable work that he blew up the house of one Wastnidge with gunpowder, indifferent to the fact that others besides the intended victim lived on the premises. The consequence was that, while Wastnidge escaped injury, a poor woman named O'Rourke, with whom neither Benschaw nor the trades unionists by whom he was hired had any

quarrel, was so severely injured that she died immediately afterwards. This is known in Sheffield as the Acorn-street murder, for the principal of these atrocities are named, catalogued, and well known in the town. Indeed, familiarity with outrage and murder seems to have bred a spirit of indifference to crime and disregard of human life



THE QUEEN AT THE ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM, BAGSHOT, SURREY: PRESENTING PURSES.

which is horrible to think of. So callous, in fact, is public feeling in Sheffield on these subjects, that the miscreant Broadhead seems to live unshunned and uncontemned; and has even had the hardihood to apply for remuneration for attending before the Commission and giving evidence!—an application which appears to be deemed a rather cool thing, but withal a good joke. Had anyone save an official of trades unions committed one-tenth of the crimes to which this miscreant has confessed, he would have been mobbed, hounded out of society, and hunted for his life—a life forfeited by connivance at, and participation in, a dozen murders. And yet Broadhead lives at home at ease, and receives all the honours of "Misterdom" among his compeers, and even in the newspapers! "Mr. Broadhead," indeed! Bah! If there were not sympathy with his crimes, the monster's presence would not be tolerated in Sheffield for an hour.

"Give us protection for our funds, and these outrages will cease," is now the cry of the trades unionists throughout the country, and especially in London, who are meeting and loudly denouncing the doings in Sheffield. This indignation is all very well in its way; but it comes a little late, and is too restricted in its scope. Had this horror of outrage been expressed somewhat sooner, it might have stayed Broadhead in his iniquitous career; and, were it somewhat more general and sweeping, it might put an end to picketing and other trades-union practices, which are but first steps "on the road to Sheffield," as the cartoon in this week's *Punch* cleverly indicates. We dare say the majority of the members of trades unions—out of Sheffield, that is—heartily detest the system of Broadhead and his confederates when carried out so thoroughly as it was by them, and now that their doings have been found out; but we fear it is a fact that practices as objectionable in principle, and differing from those of Sheffield only in degree, are still tolerated, if they are not positively sanctioned, by trades unionists elsewhere. Before the stigma Sheffield has affixed to such associations can be obliterated, their members must universally cast away the unclean thing from them; they must utterly repudiate, not merely in words but in deeds also, all attempts at coercing, intimidating, or in any way interfering with other workmen who do not choose to join themselves to the unions or be bound by their rules. They must, too, disown such sentiments as those uttered by Professor Beesley at the Exeter Hall meeting on Tuesday night. That gentleman almost justified the Sheffield proceedings, which are now proved not to have been confined to the unions over which Broadhead exercised influence, but to have been all but universal among the trades of the town; and he further said that, "when that meeting was over enough, would have been said about these outrages." Such language is utterly unjustifiable, and tends to encourage a repetition of similar malpractices. Enough can never be said in condemnation of such atrocities till the spirit that dictated them is totally eradicated. As to the protection for their funds which the unionists claim, it is difficult to see what further protection they can obtain than that already allowed by the law, and by precautions which it is in their own power to adopt. If they will dissociate "trade" from charitable objects, the funds raised by them for the latter purpose will receive the same protection that is accorded to those of other benefit societies. But it is unreasonable to expect that they can be allowed to break the law and yet to claim its aid. Mr. Tidd Pratt will certify their rules, and so give their societies a legal status, if they will make those rules such as he can sanction; and they can themselves choose trustworthy officers, exact securities from them, and exercise such control over their officials as will effectually check improper practices on their part. But so long as unionists neglect to take measures to protect themselves, they cannot expect the community to do so for them. Indeed, it is not surprising that malversations should occasionally take place in trades union funds. The unions themselves furnish examples for it. When secretaries and treasurers are habitually allowed to embezzle and misapply the moneys in their hands for "trade purposes," it is easy to understand that they will come to entertain no scruples about resorting to similar practices for their own advantage. The unions thus suffer from the loose notions of morality they have themselves initiated and encouraged, and have little right either to expect the sympathy or invoke the aid of society. As for defaulting members, trades unions have the same resource as other societies: they can expel the defaulters, and so deprive him of the benefits of the association. That is the sole punishment clubs of all kinds can inflict upon members who fail to pay their subscriptions; and trades unions have no right to claim greater powers than are possessed by other voluntary associations.

Passing to another subject, we may remind our readers that we have never expressed a very high opinion of the moral sense of the House of Commons. Indeed, we regard that assembly as exercising a most demoralising influence not only upon its members, but upon most persons who have occasion to be concerned with it or its proceedings. In connection with Parliament and Parliamentary elections men will do things, and see others do them, from which under other circumstances they would shrink. Lying and perjury are committed without scruple in Parliamentary elections and before Parliamentary Committees; and as for bribery, corruption, and other improper practices, these are hardly regarded as crimes at all, notwithstanding all the lip-aborrence that is professed. The fact is that men's moral senses become blunted directly they get mixed up in Parliamentary proceedings. For instance, would any man, elsewhere than in

the House of Commons, have held an engagement in so light esteem as the Government did their promise to Mr. Denman on the rate-demanding clause of the Reform Bill? That hon. gentleman had proposed an amendment on one of the clauses of the bill making it imperative that the rates should be demanded ere the voter could be disfranchised for non-payment. The Government opposed the amendment; but, finding they were certain to be outvoted, they temporised, and the Attorney-General undertook to introduce a clause to the same effect at a later stage. He kept the "word of promise to the ear, but broke it to the hope." He brought in the clause, but intimated that he should feel himself at liberty to vote against it by-and-by, notwithstanding that it was his own work. Other members of the Government did likewise; and, though Mr. Disraeli nominally redeemed his part of the engagement and went into the division lobby with the Opposition and against his own supporters, he used no effort to get the clause passed, and actually avowed that the promise had been given to Mr. Denman because on that occasion "the Government had little influence in the Committee"—in other words, that the engagement was not made in sincerity, but to avoid a defeat. What sort of morality call ye that? We should call it trickery; but then, we have not been initiated in the ways of Parliament, and our notions, we suppose, are vulgar. Again, though there has been much talk about bribery and corruption, no real action has been taken to suppress these practices except by disfranchising certain constituencies which had allowed their misdeeds to be found out too palpably. Last week, however, Mr. Candlish brought forward a proposition which is good so far as it goes, and which, as it does not affect hon. gentlemen personally, was adopted. All agents, canvassers, messengers, and so forth, who receive pay for services rendered during, or for six months prior to, an election, are to be disfranchised, so far as the particular constituency where they have acted is concerned. But candidates may still bring agents and canvassers for other quarters, who may bribe and corrupt to any extent, and then go home and vote in their own neighbourhood. Hon. members are quite willing to offer their tools as victims; but they take good care to keep themselves scatheless. Again, we ask, what kind of morality call ye that? Verily, Parliament is not a place where a "high sense of honour"—except, perhaps, of the conventional type—is inculcated. Amongst other reforms, moral reform is wanted there.

THE ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM.

THE history of our public institutions has not yet been written, but when such a record is given to the world it will be found that many of them arose from circumstances as peculiar as they are interesting. This is especially true of the Albert Orphan Asylum, which was honoured on Saturday last by the presence of her Majesty the Queen, who was graciously pleased to lay the foundation-stone of the new dining-hall and chapel proposed to be erected there. Some years ago a gentleman began building a magnificent mansion at Collingwood Court, near Bagshot, Surrey; but the construction had only advanced as far as the second story, when the proprietor became so involved in embarrassments that he had to relinquish his project. As usual under such circumstances, the unsheathed walls began to suffer from the influences of weather and other causes. But the progress of decay was soon arrested; for a committee of benevolent gentlemen, having resolved on the erection of an asylum for those destitute orphans for whom little or no provision is made in other institutions, took the necessary steps for obtaining the house and lands at Collingwood for the purposes of the projected institution, and in March, 1864, the purchase was completed. Before the end of that year fifty boys and fifty girls were admitted within its walls, and there are now 160 children resident in the asylum. The ages of applicants must be between six and twelve years, the condition of admission being that the children have lost both parents, or if only one, that one must be the father. Motherless girls are only received under special and peculiar circumstances. In addition to instruction in the usual branches of education, the boys are trained to a knowledge of carpentering, tailoring, or shoemaking, as the case may be, and opportunities are also afforded for those who are so disposed to qualify themselves as gardeners. The course of instruction in the girls' schools is so arranged as to be eminently calculated to make them thorough domestic servants. They are taught household work in every particular, and the 200 acres of land surrounding the building give facilities which are largely employed for teaching the female children the milking of cows, the making of butter, and the other requirements of the dairy farm.

Half-past four o'clock was the hour appointed for the commencement of the ceremony; and almost precisely at that hour, with a punctuality which has now become proverbial as regards the Queen, her Majesty drove up the entrance to the asylum, having travelled from Windsor in an open carriage. A spacious marquee had been raised for the occasion over the spot where the ceremony of the day was to be performed; and this her Majesty entered at half-past four o'clock, accompanied by Princess Louise of Hesse, Princess Louise, Prince Louis of Hesse, and Prince Leopold. At the door of the marquee Mr. Gathorne Hardy, Home Secretary; Lord Lovelace, Lord Lieutenant of Surrey; Mr. Molyneux, High Sheriff of Surrey; and the Bishop of Winchester received her Majesty, who was preceded by a procession, in which the Marquis of Exeter, M. Van de Weyer (Belgian Minister), the committee of management, and the officers of the institution took part. When the Royal party had taken their places on the dais, on which seats had been arranged for their reception, the hon. secretary, Mr. William Williams, came forward and read an address to her Majesty, and also presented the following report setting forth the history and objects of the institution:—

The managing committee of the Albert Orphan Asylum humbly beg to lay before your Majesty a brief statement of the origin, object, and progress of this institution. Shortly before the decease of the revered Prince, your Majesty's beloved and lamented consort, it occurred to a few gentlemen that, as his Royal Highness had always taken a great interest in the physical, moral, and religious welfare of the working classes of this country, there could not be a more suitable memento of the virtues and worth of his Royal Highness than an asylum for those destitute orphan children for whom little or no provision is made in other institutions; but, owing to the Hartley Colliery accident, the cotton famine, and other circumstances, no action was taken for its establishment until the month of March, 1864, when the building (which was then an unfinished mansion) and 200 acres of land were purchased for £8000. Immediate steps were then taken for completing the building, which was finished and furnished at a further cost of £5000. Before the end of that year the first fifty girls and fifty boys were admitted, on Dec. 29, 1864.

No public ceremonial took place at that time, the committee hoping that, as the asylum was established for perpetuating the memory of the illustrious Prince to whom the nation owed so much, whom all revered and loved, and whose noble virtues and worth were so valued and prized, the time would come when your Majesty would be graciously pleased to inaugurate the institution. The object of this institution is to provide board, clothing, lodging, and Scriptural education, upon Protestant principles, for destitute children of both sexes, who have lost both parents, fatherless boys and girls, and motherless girls under special circumstances. There is one novel feature

in the constitution of this asylum—no canvassing for votes is allowed, the most deserving objects being selected by the subscribers, according to the merits of the respective cases. Nor is this to be a mere educational establishment, but industrial elements (which will be more fully developed ere long) have already been grafted on to the training of these orphans, so that the boys and girls brought up under the fostering care of this institution will be able, on leaving its roof, to earn their own livelihood—the girls as domestic servants, the boys by various trades. The public have shown their appreciation of the work by contributing towards the establishment of the institution and the maintenance of its inmates, and after the gracious act of your Majesty this day the committee feel confident that the work will more abundantly increase and prosper; and they trust that not only will ample funds be provided for the new building, the foundation-stone of which is now about to be laid, and the estimated cost of which is £3000, but a great addition to the annual income will be made, by means of which the number of orphans under their care may be considerably increased. At present there are 160 children in the asylum, and since its opening 180 have been elected. The managers beg to tender your gracious Majesty their heartfelt thanks for your presence this day, and their prayer is that God will preserve your Majesty's valued life, and send your Majesty health, peace, and consolation.

After the address had been presented, her Majesty, with the assistance of the architect, Mr. Edward Ellis, and the builder, Mr. William Higgs, proceeded to lay the foundation-stone. Having inspected the case containing the coins and other emblems to be embedded in the stone, her Majesty deposited it in the cavity made for its reception. The builder then handed the Queen a massive silver trowel, with which her Majesty spread the mortar on which the stone was to rest. The block was then lowered to its place, and her Majesty, having applied the plumb and mallet in the usual manner, declared the stone to be well and truly laid. The secretary then said that he had the authority of her Majesty the Queen to proclaim the institution as the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum.

The Bishop then offered up prayer for the success of the institution, and read a portion of Scripture, and a hymn was sung by the children of the asylum.

Then came the most interesting incident of the day's proceedings. The band struck up a march, to the strains of which some 300 ladies and children came up in quick succession to present purses to the Queen on behalf of the asylum. Each of the contributors was received by her Majesty with a graceful bow or an encouraging smile, and occasional merriment was caused by the efforts of some of the tiny donors to reach the table on which the purses were to be laid. If any inference may be drawn from the pile which was raised before her Majesty, we should say that the charity benefited largely by this ceremony of presentation. The children, with whom many of the visitors joined, then sang the National Anthem, loud cheers followed, which her Majesty acknowledged with her accustomed grace, and she retired from the marquee amid outbursts of enthusiasm similar to those which had greeted her entrance. The Queen then proceeded to the lawn in front of the asylum to plant a Wellingtonia gigantea as a memorial of her visit to the institution, and returned to Windsor, escorted by a detachment of the 4th Dragoon Guards.

After her Majesty's departure, the general company retired to a second marquee, in which some 1000 ladies and gentlemen sat down to an elegant déjeuner, at which the Hon. H. Calthorpe presided, in the absence of the chairman, Lord Charles Bruce, M.P. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed, the health of her Majesty the Queen being received with enthusiastic favour. A statement of the objects and working of the institution was also made, after which several large additions to the funds were announced.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Sultan arrived at Toulon, on Saturday morning last, and, after having rested a few hours, continued his journey to Paris, which he reached on Sunday afternoon. His Imperial Majesty was met at the station by the Emperor, Prince Napoleon, the Ministers, and other high dignitaries. An enormous crowd had assembled, and the Sultan was cordially received.

La France states that not only has Mexico been taken by the Liberals, but that Vera Cruz capitulated on June 25. M. Thiers has again postponed his promised speech on Mexico, this time in consequence of the news of the execution of Maximilian.

Mr. Beckwith, president of the United States committee at the Exhibition, has been appointed an Officer of the Legion of Honour. Messrs. Charles Perkins, Lawrence, Smith, Samuel B. Ruggle, Godwin, Berner, Elias Howe, Kennedy, Mulat, and Clickering, all Americans, have been nominated Knights of the same Order.

The debate on the Budget commenced in the French Legislative body on Saturday last. M. Latour Damonin described the policy of the Government, at home and abroad, as one of equivocation; and M. Garnier-Pages criticised the state of the finances, and asserted that the only way of arriving at a balance of the Budget was by reducing the war expenses, and at the same time meeting the wish of the nation, which was desirous of peace. On Tuesday, M. Rouher, in reply to certain strictures on the scheme for the reorganisation of the army, said that,

Great revelations were made at Sadova. We saw the results of improved musketry, and observed that the lines of communication which traverse Europe permit the rapid concentration of large masses of men upon a given point. We have examined the military problems and have sought to place the military power of France upon an equal footing with that of other nations. The Opposition calls this an excessive levy of men. I call it placing the hand upon the hilt of the sword in the midst of prosperity and peace. This law of military reorganisation will cause France to be respected as sympathetic towards other nations and seeking quarrel with none, but animated by a sincere desire to maintain peace. Properly armed, she will only be all the more certain to preserve and protect the great and fruitful labours of peace.

ITALY.

The Committee of the Italian Chamber of Deputies have agreed upon a number of very comprehensive propositions with reference to the disposal of ecclesiastical property. They recommend that all the landed estates of the Church shall become the property of the State, and an enormous sum is at once to be raised on mortgages. This operation will continue until an amount equivalent to a tax of 30 per cent on the whole value has been realised. Signor Ferrara, the Minister of Finance, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted by the King. It is thought that Ferrara will be succeeded by Signor Cordova.

ROME.

Rome is very full of visitors, lay and clerical, just now. The eighteen hundredth anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul was gorgeously celebrated on Saturday last, and there was a fresh canonisation of saints. A telegram says that 100,000 foreigners were present, and that the Pope was loudly cheered.

The Holy Father is receiving addresses from various quarters. The Bishops now in Rome have assured him of their fidelity to his throne and to his teaching; and have declared, somewhat rashly, perhaps, that neither princes nor peoples will permit the rights or authority of the Pope to be ignored. His Holiness, in a reply to an Italian deputation, was conciliatory in tone. He had always, he said, done what he could to aid Italy, and he hoped those who had charge of her destinies would save her from moral and religious ruin.

PRUSSIA.

It is said that Prussia and France have arrived at a satisfactory understanding with regard to the North Schleswig question, by the terms of which Prussia retains possession of Flensburg, Duppel, and Alsén. A Government ordinance has been published suspending the banishment of the families of those inhabitants of Northern Schleswig who had evaded by flight their liability to military service.

There seems to be no doubt that Prussia has stipulated with ex-King George of Hanover that before any negotiations are entered into with him as to his private property he shall formally abdicate. A Hamburg paper states that the Prussian Government has ordered the ex-Queen of Hanover to dismiss her present attendants and accept others selected for her by the Government, or leave the province within three days. The same journal adds that the ex-Queen refuses to do either the one thing or the other, on the ground that she can only change her residence by desire of her husband.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor of Russia made his grand entry into St. Petersburg on Monday, and was received with rejoicings. During the day the Czar attended the church of Kasan, where a thanksgiving service was performed for his Majesty's recent escape from assassination.

The Czar, it appears, behaved with a great deal of coolness to the unfortunate people of Warsaw. They erected triumphal arches in his honour, illuminated their city, and presented him with bread and salt—those ancient tokens of a nation's servitude; but he kept himself within doors, and showed a studied reserve.

A new tariff scheme, based upon the experience of the last ten years, has been prepared and submitted to experts for examination and report. A special committee, under the presidency of M. Nebolsin, will then draw up a bill containing the necessary provisions.

PORTUGAL.

The Portuguese Chambers were closed, on the 27th ult., by the King, with the usual ceremonial. His Majesty delivered a short speech, in which he said that their labours had been very satisfactory. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs had been organised. The commercial treaty with France promised to augment the national commerce. The state of the finances had been much improved and the expenditure reduced, and a course of economy would be pursued. The new civil code and the reform of the civil administration were great steps on the road of progress, as was also the abolition of capital punishment. The extradition treaty with Spain was of manifest utility. His Majesty also said that the railway system was now very complete, and would develop the resources of the country.

TURKEY.

The Porte has conferred four superior appointments on Christians, three of whom are Greeks and one an Armenian. They have been respectively nominated Deputy Governors of Salonica, Smyrna, the Dardanelles, and Yanina.

THE CANDIAN INSURRECTION.

Official reports from Omar Pacha announce that a great success has been obtained by the Imperial troops over the volunteer corps concentrated in the district of Lapethi. After this defeat of the volunteers the inhabitants of Lapethi delivered over to the Imperial army 6000 carbines and a large quantity of munitions of war, which they had recently received from Greece by the Arkadi. The Imperial army now holds the strongholds which it was necessary to occupy previous to marching on Sphakia, which is about to be attacked.

Intelligence from Athens on the 27th ult. states that the Arkadi has accomplished her fourteenth voyage to Candia. She landed 500 volunteers, 2000 muskets, and a quantity of military supplies, provisions, and clothes. Four Turkish steamers attempted to cut her off, but she escaped, returned to Candia, and finished landing her cargo. Upon the Arkadi quitting the island she was pursued by eight Turkish ships, which she succeeded in evading and returned to Syra.

THE UNITED STATES.

The military commanders in the Southern States appear to be much disconcerted by an opinion given by the Attorney-General that they had exceeded the powers conferred on them by the Reconstruction Act. General Sickles had tendered his resignation and demanded an inquiry.

A Cabinet consultation had been held at which all the members indorsed the opinion of the Attorney-General relative to the Reconstruction Act, except Secretary Stanton, who dissented on the principal points. The President announced that he concurred with the majority of the Cabinet, and would communicate an order to the district commanders in conformity with Mr. Stanberry's opinion. It was reported that Secretary Stanton was about to resign. There is little doubt that Congress will reassemble during the present month.

The trial of Surratt was progressing, and several witnesses had testified to having seen him in Washington on the night of the assassination of President Lincoln.

General Longstreet has been pardoned by Mr. Johnson.

THE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

BARON VON BEUST, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has sent a despatch to the Austrian Ambassadors announcing that information has been received that the Emperor Maximilian was executed, by order of Juarez, on the 19th ult. Baron von Beust then announces the steps that were taken by the Austrian Government several months ago to avoid the terrible calamity; and states that the Imperial family, foreseeing that the result of the expedition to Mexico would be a failure, cheerfully agreed to reinstate the Emperor Maximilian in all those rights, as nearest agnate to the Austrian throne, which he renounced on accepting the throne of Mexico. When the news of his capture was received, all means were adopted in order to bring about a diplomatic intervention in his favour by the whole of Europe, and previously, with a too fatal foresight of coming dangers, the Austrian Ambassador at Washington had been instructed to address himself to the Government of the United States and to solicit their active intervention in case of any danger threatening the Emperor. The result of Mr. Seward's humane intervention is known. As soon as intelligence of the capitulation of the Emperor was received, the Emperor of the French, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia were called upon to instruct their Ambassadors at Washington to unite their influence with that of the Austrian Ambassador for the safety of the Emperor. All the Powers immediately acceded to this request, and her Majesty Queen Victoria further supported the exertions of the diplomatists, as the life of a dear and near relative was at stake. The representatives of Juarez at Washington having tried to justify the most severe measures, on the ground that the Emperor Maximilian would for ever remain a pretender, and would have assembled around him a party who would keep the country in a state of anarchy, an Imperial family council assembled, and it was resolved to reinstate the Emperor in all his former rights, and at the same time to give guarantees that he should renounce all claims to the throne of Mexico. The question of ransom had never been mooted at this time, but sacrifices to any amount would have been made at Vienna in order that the life of one so dear to the Imperial family might have been spared. It was also seen that dangers might arise if such a course were adopted. The idea was entertained that it would be expedient to dispatch a confidential agent to Juarez, in order to open a negotiation with a view of inducing him to accept a sum of money on condition that he liberated the Emperor. The consideration here arose that this step would be attended with much danger, for however great the ability of the emissary, discovery might result, and then the safety of the Emperor would be much more endangered. It also seemed clear that Juarez, with the best intentions, would be powerless in opposition to the other leaders. Neither could this last hope of the Austrian family be carried out, as time was wanting to give effect to it.

The death of Maximilian, generally assumed as a fact during the past few days by the press and Courts of Europe, is now officially confirmed by an Atlantic Cable telegram received on Thursday morning. The Emperor Francis Joseph, who was at Munich when the first telegram announcing the sad and unexpected death of his brother arrived, left at once by special train for Vienna. The Court of Saxony has ordered a mourning for three weeks on account of Maximilian's death, and the Emperor Napoleon is said to have issued a similar order to continue for twenty-one days.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.—The hospitality and munificence of a private nobleman has been interposed to protect the nation from the reproach which would have been cast upon it if the course, against which we so energetically protested, had been pursued of lodging the guest of the nation, the Viceroy of Egypt, at an hotel. Lord Dudley, with a public spirit which will not fail to be gratefully appreciated by all who are jealous of our national honour, has placed his magnificent mansion, Dudley House, Park-lane, and his establishment at the disposal of the Viceroy during his stay in this country; and the Cabinet have accepted his offer. We believe the Duke of Sutherland was also ready to place Stafford House at the Viceroy's disposal, and that a grand fête will be given there in honour of his Highness.—Times.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

THE EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

MONDAY was a grand day in Paris. The Emperor, accompanied by the Sultan of Turkey and the Viceroy of Egypt, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and surrounded by all the other distinguished personages at present in Paris, distributed the prizes to the successful exhibitors at the International Exhibition. The ceremony took place in the Palace of Industry erected in 1855. His Majesty delivered the following speech:—

Gentlemen,—After an interval of twelve years, I have come, for the second time, to distribute the rewards to those who have most distinguished themselves in those works which enrich nations, embellish life, and soften manners. The poets of antiquity sang the praises of those great games in which the various nations of Greece assembled to contend for the prizes of the race. What would they say to-day were they to be present at these Olympic games of the whole world, in which all nations, contending by intellect, seem to launch themselves simultaneously in the infinite career of progress towards an ideal incessantly approached without ever being able to be attained. From all parts of the earth the representatives of science, of the arts, and of industry have hastened to vie with each other; and we may say that peoples and kings have both come to do honour to the efforts of labour, and to crown them by their presence with the idea of conciliation and peace. Indeed, in these great assemblies, which appear to have no other object than material interests, a moral sentiment always disengages itself from the competition of intelligence—a sentiment of concord and civilisation. In drawing near nations learn to know and to esteem each other. Hatred is extinguished, and the truth becomes more and more evident that the prosperity of each country contributes to the prosperity of all. The Exhibition of 1867 may justly be termed universal; for it unites the elements of all the riches of the globe. Side by side with the latest improvements of modern art appear the products of the remotest ages, so that they represent at one and at the same time the genius of all ages and of all nations. It is universal; for, in addition to that which is demanded by the necessities of the many, the interests of the labouring classes have never aroused more lively solicitude. Their moral and material wants, their education, the conditions of life at a cheap rate, the most productive combinations of association, have been the object of patient inquiries, of serious study. Thus all improvements march forward. If science, by turning matter to account, liberates labour, the cultivation of the mind, by subduing vices, prejudices, and vulgar passions, also liberates humanity. Let us congratulate ourselves, Gentlemen, upon having received among us the majority of the Sovereigns and Princes of Europe, and so many distinguished visitors. Let us also be proud of having shown to them France as she is—great, prosperous, and free. One must be destitute of all patriotic faith to doubt of her greatness, must close one's eyes to evidence to deny her prosperity, must misunderstand her institutions, tolerant sometimes even of license, not to behold in them liberty. Foreigners have been able to appreciate this France—formerly disquieted and casting out her unsciences beyond her frontier—now laborious and calm, always fertile in generous ideas, turning her genius to the most diverse marvels, and never allowing herself to be enervated by material enjoyments. Attentive minds will have divined without trouble that, notwithstanding the development of wealth, notwithstanding enticements towards prosperity, the fibre of the nation is always ready to flounce as soon as the question of honour and the country arises; but this noble susceptibility could not be a subject of alarm for the repose of the world. Let those who have lived for a short time among us carry to their homes a just opinion of our country; let them feel persuaded of the sentiments of esteem and sympathy we entertain for foreign nations, and of our sincere desire to live at peace with them. I thank the Imperial Commission, the members of the jury, and the different committees for the intelligent zeal they have displayed in the accomplishment of their tasks. I thank them also in the name of the Prince Imperial, whom, notwithstanding his tender age, I have been happy to associate in this great undertaking, of which he will retain the remembrance. I hope the Exhibition of 1867 will mark a new era of harmony and of progress. Assured that Providence blesses the efforts of all who, like ourselves, desire good, I believe in the definitive triumph of the great principles of morality and justice, which, while satisfying all legitimate desires, are alone able to consolidate thrones, to elevate nations, and to ennoble humanity.

THE CEREMONY.

The doors were opened as early as eleven o'clock, and ticket-holders were recommended to come in good time, in order to avoid crowding. The hint was attended to, and by twelve o'clock very few seats indeed in all the vast nave and galleries were vacant. Exactly 17,000 thousand stalls were provided; and these being all numbered and classified, and the arrangements being admirable, they were reached without the least inconvenience or confusion by the persons entitled to them. It was easy to walk about and talk to one's friends, and even to go out and get a breath of air in the Champs Elysées and get back again. The equable light through the glass roof, only slightly tempered by a light-coloured velum and some pennons, enabled one to recognise faces almost all over the building. The coup-d'œil was magnificent. A well-considered deviation from the original regulations abolished the distinction between ladies and gentlemen's stalls; and so, instead of gentlemen being penned in black masses in one square section and ladies in light-coloured attire in another, they were all mixed up together, and the effect, viewed from a distance, was that of immense parterres of variegated flowers. A very large, open space, extending along the whole length of the nave, was reserved for the movements of the groups of prizeholders intended to file before the Emperor, and also for the promenade which it was part of the programme that the Emperor and his guests should make at the end of the ceremony, in order to be seen closely by all the visitors. In the centre of this oblong space were ten "trophies," as they are called, representing the ten "groups" in the Universal Exhibition, and containing specimens of all the products exhibited. For instance, in Group No. 1—that of the Fine Arts—there were Meissonnier's "Battle of Solferino," works of Reimers, the Russian, and Knauss, the (very great) Prussian painter; a painting by Th. Rousseau; a bust by Vela, and several other works of art. The third group (furniture) consisted principally of bronzes and marbles, and was surmounted by a handsome onyx clock. In the fourth (clothing) there were samples of lace, silk, and embroidery, and at each corner of the trophy was a lay-figure in complete costume. The eighth trophy—that of Agriculture—was surmounted with stuffed skin, which had a very ludicrous effect. The space between these trophies was occupied with benches covered with red velvet-gold embroidered, on which were to sit the various groups of prizeholders. The throne erected in the centre of the north side of the building was very spacious, and covered by a dais of immense height richly decorated with crimson and gold hangings between two gilt columns. On the large carpeted space of the throne were placed three gilded arm-chairs for the Emperor and Empress and the Sultan, and several chairs on each side for the Princes and Princesses of the Imperial party. The promenade in the space in the nave above mentioned was separated from the oblong space containing the trophies by an unbroken hedge of choice flowers. A prominent part of the preliminary spectacle was the orchestra, in front of which, in three or four rows, were seated at least 300 ladies, for the most part young and "passing fair," all dressed in white with blue trimmings. These were intended to sing the chorus of Rossini's much-talked-of Hymn to the Emperor.

At two o'clock the roll of the drums outside, *battant aux champs*, announced that the Emperor and his great Oriental guest were coming. Then everybody, ceasing to flutter and gossip, went to his or her own place, and all was expectation. Ministers, Marshals of France, Admirals, and other privileged persons, took their seats in places reserved at the foot and about the steps of the throne. In a few moments the Emperor and Empress and the Sultan appeared and took their seats in the centre of the throne, the Emperor sitting in the middle, the Sultan on his right hand, and the Empress on his left. Next to the Empress was the Prince Royal of Prussia. On the same side of the throne were Prince Humbert, Princess Matilde, and Prince Napoleon. On the right of the Sultan were the Prince Imperial; the Prince of Wales, in a General's uniform, and the Duke of Cambridge, also in a General's uniform. There were ladies with them, and among others the bride, the Princess della Cisterna. The inevitable "Brother of the Tycoon of Japan" was there too.

The Emperor was greeted with a good deal of applause on his arrival. As soon as he had taken his seat Rossini's Hymn to the Emperor began. When the last sound of the hymn, which was not long, died away, M. Rouher, in full Minister's uniform, and with all his orders, read at the foot of the throne a very long speech, giving the Emperor an account of the history, state, and prospects

of the Universal Exhibition. The Emperor then rose and read the speech which we have given above.

After this speech the groups set themselves in motion, and, with a banner borne before each, approached the foot of the throne. These groups were very numerous. The first was the fine-arts group, with Count Nieuwerkerke at its head. What followed was rather tedious to the majority of the beholders, although no doubt intensely interesting to the parties immediately concerned and their friends. Every man entitled to a gold medal issued in turn from his group, mounted the steps of the throne, and received his honorary reward from the Emperor's own hand. It was curious to witness the uniformity with which the laureates went through the ceremony. There were several steps to be mounted, and then a wide carpeted space to be traversed between the landing and the foot of the Emperor's chair. A useful hint given by persons in authority that time was short made almost every medallist, including many grey and bald-headed elderly men, run up the stairs; then nearly everybody was nervously afraid to approach too closely to the Emperor's chair, so that he had inconveniently to stretch forth his arm to its full length to give the medal. Both the Emperor and Empress occasionally said a few gracious words to very eminent exhibitors or to persons they knew. But far the greater number hastily clutched the medal, and in most cases with a quick bow, which some however forgot, turned round, and ran down the stairs as fast as possible. During this ceremony a sudden storm of applause in the neighbourhood of the throne showed that something unusual had happened. The incident was that the Emperor had been declared by the jury entitled to a prize for his model of a working man's house, and, as he could not well give a prize to himself, the Prince Imperial, delegated by the Imperial Commission, rose from his seat to present it to him. The distribution was then got through much quicker than, from the number of medallists, was to be apprehended. By four o'clock all was over. The Emperor, the Sultan, the Empress, and all the great people on the throne then descended and very slowly walked round the nave. They were loudly applauded, especially by the persons nearest to them—namely, the groups who had just received prizes. The Sultan, who walked not in the order in which he had sat, on the Emperor's right hand, but in the middle, between him and the Empress, very graciously and frequently returned the salutes of the public. It was an extremely pretty sight, besides being a very memorable one, to see the Royal ladies in the Empress's suite, with their splendid dresses of various colours and long trains, walking arm in arm with the Prince of Wales, the Prince Royal of Prussia, Prince Humbert, the Duke of Cambridge, &c.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

FOLLOWING the good example set by the Bath and West of England Society, which has founded upon an agricultural basis a scheme for the general encouragement of science, the fine arts, and manufacturing industry, Brighton has called to its councils the whole of Sussex and the neighbouring shires, with a view to the extension southward of that system of periodical or occasional exhibitions which derived its first grand impetus from the enlightened ideas and active sympathies of the late Prince Consort. The Southern Counties Association, founded upon the model and for the purposes mentioned, embraces the six "southern counties" of Hants, Berks, Oxford, Surrey, Sussex, and Kent. The Duke of Richmond is chairman, and the resident nobility and gentry of the six counties named are represented upon the council. Like the Bath society, this association supports two departments—an agricultural department and a fine-arts department—and each organises an exhibition of its own. The agricultural show is held in a large meadow of twenty acres adjoining the Sussex County Cricket Ground, at Hove. The fine-arts exhibition is collected in the new assembly-room constructed by the Corporation of Brighton from a "conversion" of the large domed-covered stabling and courtyard in the northern block of the Pavilion property. In both departments there are numerous and excellent contributions.

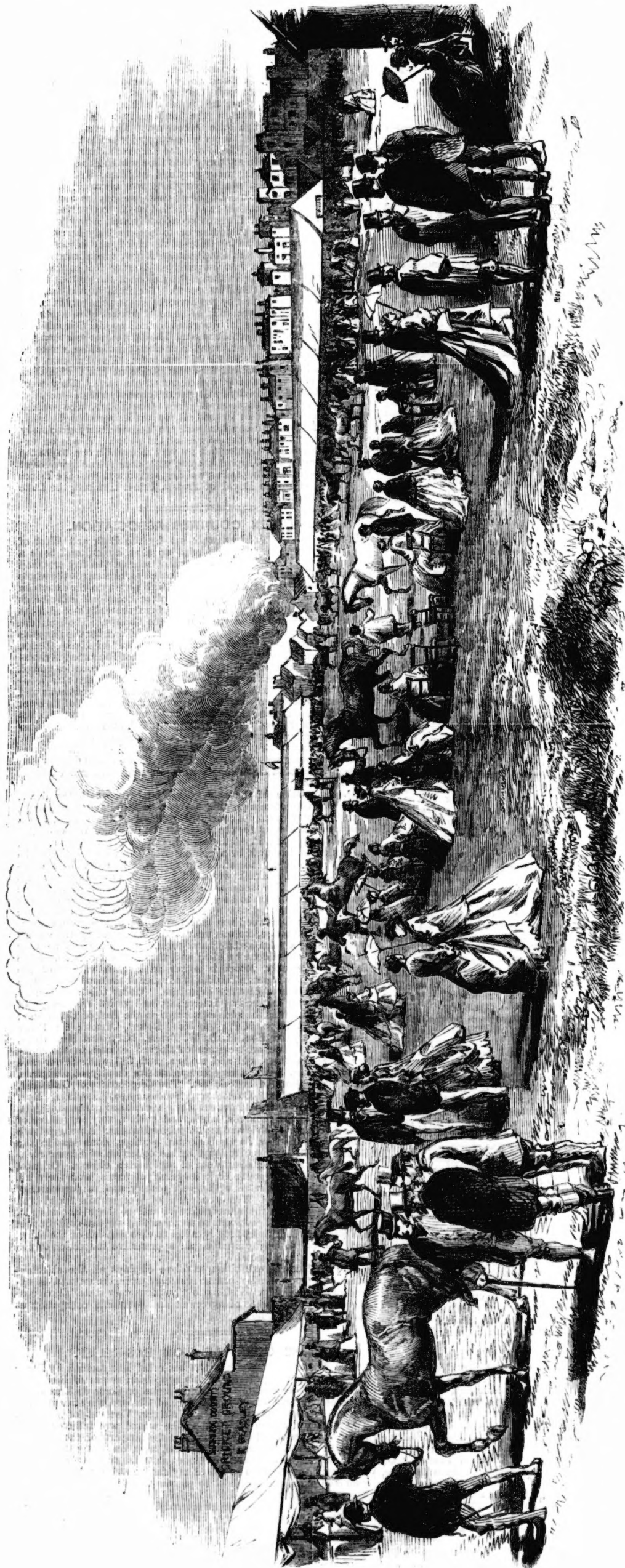
The completion of the new assembly-room beneath the dome, which was heretofore a prominent object of the Pavilion buildings, but which only covered a courtyard attached to the stables, was a most opportune event for the Brighton Exhibition of Works of Art and Industry. Mr. P. C. Lockwood, C.E., the borough surveyor, has executed his task in a manner which can hardly fail to be entirely satisfactory to all Brightonians. It must be remembered that this same task was a difficult, and, in some respects, a thankless one. The worse than barbarous ignorance of Saracenic art which would seem to have prevailed in the time of the Regency would not be tolerated now by the least aesthetic town councillor; but, while Mr. Lockwood was called upon to pursue a given character of ornamentation, he was unavoidably hampered by the vicious conditions of a false architectural form. All that could be very well done has been done by him; and, though the decoration of the Brighton Assembly Room is rather an English variety of the Moresque, it is a thousand strides in advance of the nondescript style from which it is a cautious departure. Under this roof is now exhibited a very instructive, interesting, and varied assemblage of objects, contributed by such cognoscenti as the Earl of Chichester; Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P.; the Hon. Robert Curzon; Sir Percy Burrell, Bart.; the Hon. H. B. W. Brand, M.P.; and Mrs. Hope, of Deepden. The art-treasures catalogued extend to the number of 233 pictures, old and modern, and 383 water-colour and other drawings, beside a very comprehensive display of old plate, china, and objects of historic art. The Corporations of Guildford, Rochester, Seaford, Canterbury, Southampton, Hastings, Rye, Chichester, and Arundel have sent their ancient and curious insignia, with many quaint tankards, bowls, and goblets, very suggestive of the conviviality of civic and municipal institutions. Among private contributors, the Rev. James Beck has, perhaps, done best in the illustration of local archaeology, by his collection of Sussex rush-burners and by a rich assortment of antiquarian objects. Oriental porcelain is fairly represented in its principal forms; and there are some excellent specimens of English pottery, and in particular of the manufactures of Wedgwood and of Wedgwood's friend and worthy emulator in the reproduction of antique shapes and designs, Turner. We should not omit to mention that visitors will find in the catalogue short introductory notes to each division of the show, and will be thereby guided to an appreciative inspection of the most noteworthy objects.

The agricultural exhibition at Hove displays all the objects—cattle excepted—usually characteristic of such shows, and is exceedingly interesting. Visitors to "London-super-mare" have consequently special means of agreeable and profitable occupation at their command just now.

THE CŒUR DE LION BAS-RELIEF.

OUR Engraving represents the bas-relief lately added by Baron Marchetti to the pedestal of his equestrian statue of Richard I. The incident depicted is the closing scene of Cœur de Lion's life, after receiving his wound at the siege of Chalon, the stronghold of one of his Aquitanian vassals, Vidomar, Viscount of Limoges. This occurred March 26, 1199. The wound was inflicted by an arrow, aimed at the Royal person from the ramparts of the castle by a youth named Bertrand de Gurdun, who, on being afterwards taken before the King and questioned as to his motive for inflicting the wound, replied, "You killed my father and my brother with your own hand, and designed to put me to an ignominious death." The prospect of his own death inspired Richard with sentiments of moderation and justice, and he ordered Gurdun to be set at liberty and allowed a sum of money; but the savage Macradès, who commanded the Brabançons, caused him to be flayed alive. Richard died of his wound April 6, 1199, in the forty-second year of his age, and the tenth of his reign, leaving no issue.

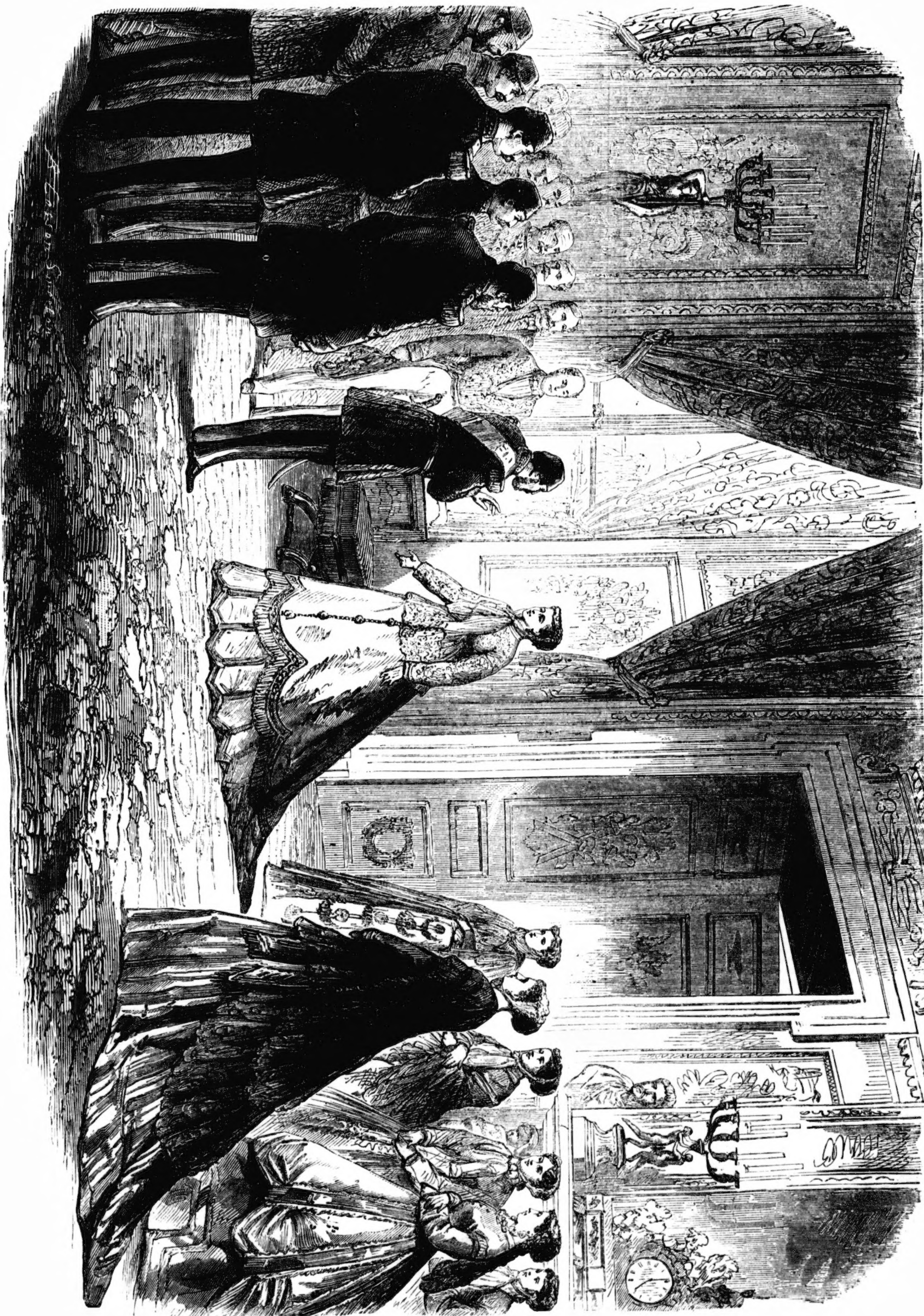
A CORONER'S JURY in Baltimore lately found this strange verdict:—"Death from suicide, by his own hands, while labouring under mental depression."



SOUTHERN COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL SHOW AT HOVE, NEAR BRIGHTON.



BAS-RELIEF ON THE PEDestal OF BARON MAROCHETTI'S EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF RICHARD COEUR DE LION.



RECEPTION OF THE PACHA OF EGYPT AT THE TUILERIES.—SEE PAGE 18.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 310.

THE lobby of the House of Commons—the outer lobby we mean—is notable over all the world as a place where every species and every variety of the genus homo may, in the course of a Session or two, be seen. We have met there Princes, throned and dethroned; world-renowned patriots, successful or unsuccessful; ambassadors, plenipotentiaries, consuls, attachés, secretaries, from every civilised nation in the world; people, too, of every shade of colour—yellow Chinese, mulattos of every tinge, dusky Japanese, black Congo negroes. Yankees just now swarm. They have been or are going to the Paris Exhibition, and of course must come to see the famous English House of Commons. In short, there is scarcely a nation under heaven that has not sent its representative, credited or uncredited, to this place. There is, we venture to say, hardly a single famous man in the world (except kings, though now and then a monarch appears) whom the officials and policemen stationed in the lobby have not seen. But these foreigners come and go and give no trouble. There are, though, men of our own nation who give enormous trouble. Parliamentary agents or otherwise, agitators, speculators, quacks, grievance-mongers, beggars, &c., all in succession, and often several of the different species together, resort here. Parliamentary agents are legitimately here; their business lies here. It is their duty to see that the private bills pass their successive stages. But they give no trouble. They get their business done and then disperse, time being too valuable to them to be wasted here. Agents, irregular, paid or unpaid, employed or volunteers, who canvass members to support or oppose bills, stop longer, sometimes all night for many successive nights, and are a great nuisance. They seize unwilling members by the button; they hold them in talk when business or hunger is impelling them to go elsewhere; they break all rules, darting about the lobby like swallows, blocking up doorways and passages; and at times are so rebellious, that not unfrequently the crowd of strangers has to be swept out to get rid of these specially troublesome people.

DEPUTATIONS.

Then there are deputations here—a constant succession of them. This year deputations have been specially numerous: deputations to support the Sunday Trading Bill and Sunday Liquor Traffic Bill; deputations to oppose both—these latter, for the most part, being composed of our old friends the Bungs;—deputations for compulsory vaccination, deputations against; and a dozen or two of deputations from boroughs in the country, some to agitate against the proposed disfranchisement of their boroughs, others to obtain, if possible, enfranchisement. One night a deputation, 200 strong, came down to see the Home Secretary on the Sunday Trading Bill. But this was too much of a good thing. This assemblage had to be resolutely stopped by the police in the central hall, where, after some consultation, it winnowed out a select few, and sent them as a deputation from a deputation to speak to the Minister. The authorities of the House lately had it in their mind to refuse admission to all deputations; but suddenly the question started up, "What is a deputation?" And this problem proving as insoluble as the famous "What is a pound?" no orders could be given. It is curious and amusing to watch these deputations; that, for example, which had to meet Mr. Gathorne Hardy, the Home Secretary. This seemed to us to comprise in about equal parts artisans and small shopkeepers. They had a leader, or spokesman, of course, who had no doubt been duly appointed. "Jenkins, you must speak to him, because you've got the gift of the gab;" and Jenkins opened the case, emphasising it with finger and thumb. The Minister, with that handsome, serene face of his—face so handsome and pleasant, that it would, one would think, fascinate and charm into quietude even an angry and turbulent mob—listening as attentively and patiently as he is accustomed to listen to a sermon; and, as old Peggotty, the Yarmouth boatman, used to observe, "We can't say no fairer than that;" for Mr. Hardy is a religious man; and, of course, under good sermon or bad, sits as quietly as the church itself. And look how closely these good people cluster round him, and, when he speaks, how admiringly they listen and stare. Fancy it! They are in the presence of a Chief Secretary of State, and he is arguing with Jenkins as if he were his equal. It is an event in their lives never to be forgotten, an era to date from. But here is another deputation. This has come to see Mr. Roebuck, to urge him to oppose the Sunday Trading Bill, or, it may be, the Sunday Liquor Traffic Bill, which he means to do with all his force of argument and scorn; but he is not listening attentively and serenely, as Mr. Hardy listened, for Roebuck is a bad listener; but is obviously telling them *his* mind—after his manner—sharply, concisely, and with an authority not to be questioned. See, now the leader wants to argue; but Roebuck will have no reply. He has spoken, what need that more be said? And now he dismisses the deputation, and walks majestically away. There was still one more deputation on that night—a deputation to Lord Amberley on the same subject or subjects. Him you cannot see; for he, being a very tiny man, and the deputation composed of taller men, is buried in the mass and lost to sight.

A FANATIC.

These deputations do not give the officials much trouble. They are for the most part quiet and orderly; and when they have done their work, having gazed for a time with wonder and awe at the chamber, its carved ceiling, and those wonderful brass candelabra, and glanced, enviously, at the well furnished refreshment-stall, they quietly glide out and vanish. Agents, volunteers or paid, are the parties that annoy the members and pester the officials most. For months past there has been in the lobby a person, the like of whom for unwearied patience, dogged perseverance, and audacity, in all our experience we have never known. From his hat we should decide that he is a Quaker; from his white choker and his audacity we should judge that he is a parson. His business here was to agitate against the Government compulsory Vaccination Bill. Somehow, he has got into his muddled head the antique, mouldy, and long-since exploded theory that vaccination is bad; that it does not secure its object; and, further, that it is the cause of many hideous diseases. Perhaps he does not go so far as to believe that it turns children into cows, as some of our ignorant ancestors thought when Jenner first applied his great discovery; but, short of that notion, there is no extravagance too extravagant to find a place in his chaotic brain. He has been about the lobby for several months seizing hold of members as they passed, holding them by the button, and pouring into their willing or unwilling ears (in nineteen cases out of twenty certainly unwillingly) his strange illogical and thousand-times-confuted notions. Sometimes the imprisoned member would condescend to argue the point; but the confused, chaotic mind of this fanatic has long since become impenetrable, impervious to reason. For the most part, though, the members thus caught listened politely and patiently—"would consider the matter; yes, it is very important; would give the matter attention," &c., and then as soon as possible would dismiss or shake off the annoyance, and pass on, with a silent mental execration, especially if they were interrupted, as they often were, on their way to dinner. When a member thus politely listened, his interruptor considered that he had made a coup, and straightway said polite member's name was jotted down in a memorandum-book for "hopeful," probably "affixed," like a sanguine friend of ours, who when canvassing used to mark down a voter who refused "doubtful," and only those as "decidedly against" who turned him out of their houses. For months, as we have said, this gentleman pursued this hopeless work, until, in the lobby, he got to be a standing nuisance, and to be, if possible, avoided. We have called his work hopeless; but he did not think so. On the contrary, he believed that he should get the bill thrown out. Had he not got Sir Clark Jervoise Jervoise on his side, who, on contagion, is such a learned authority? and Mr. Vanderbyl, who, though now a merchant, was once a surgeon? and Mr. Barrow, so old and venerable? And does not his book show the names of some hundred members who had promised to consider? "Consider!" Well, if they will but consider,

they will inevitably be convinced, thought this illogical but sanguine man. In this way did this gentleman blow up a huge bubble, coloured by Hope with the most radiant hues. But at last the bubble burst, for on Thursday, the 27th ult., as he sat under the gallery, earnestly and hopefully watching the event, he heard and saw Mr. Vanderbyl's amendment, that the bill be read that day six months, rejected, and the bill read the third time and passed, *without a division*. "No!" as Mr. Lowe said, "we are not going, in this year 1867, to reopen the question of vaccination." "But, thank God, we have a House of Lords!" This "fanatic to an idea" will not give up the fight yet. This bill has gone to the Upper House, and he has gone there too, to worry peers as he long worried commoners, and no doubt with the same result. The strange, illogical, fanatical man!

THE PHILOSOPHY OF QUORUMS AND COUNTS-OUT.

Mr. Crawford, the member for the City, is dead against counts-out—would have them abolished by law if he could get it done; and plumes himself highly on preventing a count last week by pointing out to the Speaker that there were two members skulking behind his chair. He looks upon the power to count out the House as an infringement upon the rights of private members. Strange that a member of Parliament should be ignorant of Parliamentary philosophy! The necessity for a quorum of forty members is a great privilege, and ought to be held inviolable—privilege of private independent members, Mr. Crawford, if you will condescend to reflect. For what would inevitably happen if there were no power in the House of Commons to prevent business being carried on with less than a specified quorum? Why, this would happen:—Government, if so disposed, could, late at night, pack the House with Government officials and carry measures or vote money as they pleased. We have known this often attempted, and often prevented by a count-out. Singularly ill-timed, too, is Mr. Crawford's querulous complaint. Except some few counts-out exceedingly late, when the House was at vanishing point, there has been but one all this Session. Strange that what was intended, and has often proved to be, a great popular privilege, should be deemed, by a City representative, a popular grievance! True, this privilege is used mischievously; but what good thing is there in the world that cannot be perverted to a bad purpose? The House, though, is sound upon this point; for when Mr. Crawford's proposal to modify the practice of counts-out was put, there was only his own voice and one more in its favour, whilst there was a volley, sharp and loud, of "noes" against it.

GETTING HOT.

We are getting warm, and at times hot, in the House, and it is rumoured that there may come an explosion even yet that may blow this Reform Bill out of the House and the Ministry to atoms. On Friday week we were exceedingly hot, and some said that the explosion was at hand. Mr. Attorney-General on that morning fulfilled his promise to move a clause to compel overseers to make formal demands upon the ratepayers to pay their rates, and, failing such demand, that no ratepayer should be disfranchised for non-payment of rates. Liberal clause, you see, to prevent wholesale disfranchisement of voters. Very good, that. But Mr. Attorney, though he proposed the clause, confessed that he did not approve of it (Visible and audible sensation). But this was not all, for Mr. Disraeli told us that though, according to his promise, he should now vote for the clause, he would reserve to himself the right to move that it be struck out on bringing up the report. Excitement profound and active ensued upon this announcement. But we were not at the hottest stage even then. After the division, it was discovered that, though the bulk of the Ministry voted for the clause, the great majority of the Conservatives went into the "No" lobby, and defeated it by a majority of two votes. Ha! treachery there! Why did all these go against the Government? Suspicion said at once that they had received a hint that this was to be the order of the day; whilst others asserted that Taylor had arranged it all. Now we were in a white heat, and it seemed for a time that the end was come; but, after a while, the heat cooled down. No more business, however, could be done that day.

A TERRIBLE SELL.

On Monday night we had another sell; but this time it was the Conservative party that was sold—sold in the most open, flagrant manner. Mr. Horsfall, the Conservative member for Liverpool, moved that Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham should each have a third member. Mr. Adderley was put up to answer Mr. Horsfall (put up, mark, for no under-secretary would presume to rise unless he were asked to do so by his chief), and he made a speech in his voluble but somewhat washy manner, and proved to his own satisfaction, if not to the satisfaction of anybody else, that the thing could not, and asserted that it must not, be done—Disraeli, the while, sitting close to his Under-Secretary. Now, what was the nature of his reflections all this time? He looked from a distance as if he were either profoundly thinking, or not thinking at all. So still, so immovable were his features. Had he, then, resolved to grant all that his henchman was trying to prove could not be granted, or was he revolving in his own mind what he should do? This can never be known. It would seem that he must have determined beforehand to grant Horsfall's request. But, if so, why did he let Adderley speak? But, either way, it is clear that he had consulted nobody. The grim, sardonic, silent man! his ways are indeed past finding out. Perhaps, though, he really only determined to give way after Adderley had spoken. Colonel Taylor was in constant communication with him, and he may have whispered possible defeat in his leader's ear, and Disraeli may have retreated to save himself from defeat. After Adderley's speech there was a good deal of talk, but it was all on one side—that is, for the amendment. At last Disraeli rose, and there was silence profound until his intention to concede began to ooze out, and then there came tittering, gradually growing into loud mirth mingled with louder cheering. And what did Adderley do? Poor man! Well, for a time he looked exceedingly miserable. At length he rose and left the House, and did not return till the division was over. One other member, at least, of the Government—to wit, Mr. Selater-Booth—also refused to vote. Of course, the amendment was carried by a large majority. But it is worthy of note that sixty-five members, including tellers, almost all Conservatives, voted against the Government. Henley did not vote, nor General Peel; they, with the two recalcitrant Ministers, stood in the outer lobby whilst the division was going on. What their talk to each other was we know not; but they looked as if they were saying, What will this strange man do next?

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Upon the motion of the Earl of Carnarvon, it was agreed to appoint a Select Committee to consider whether any and what arrangement could be made to remedy the present defective construction of their Lordships' Chamber, especially with reference to hearing.

The Earl of Malmesbury stated, in reply to Lord Wharfedale, that the Viceroy of Egypt had been officially invited to visit this country, and that he would be entertained with the honour due to his position.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MORNING SITTINGS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated, in answer to Mr. B. Cochrane, that, with the view of facilitating the public business, and especially the Reform Bill, it was his intention to propose to continue, in a modified form, the order that the House shall sit on the afternoons of Tuesdays and Fridays.

THE REFORM BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in reply to Mr. Gladstone, intimated that the occupier of furnished lodgings will be admissible to the franchise under the Reform Bill, provided such lodgings are of the clear annual value, if unfurnished, of £10 or upwards.

The House having resolved itself into Committee on the Reform Bill, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed a new clause relating to the mode of demanding the payment of poor rates. It was to the effect that every poor rate payable from an occupier in respect of premises capable of conferring

upon him the franchise should be demanded of him by a requisition or demand-note, wholly or partly in writing or print, which note should be deemed to be duly served if delivered to the occupier, or left at his last or usual place of abode, or with some person on the premises in respect of which the rate was demanded; and that no rate should be deemed to be payable until the expiration of seven clear days from the service of the note. The clause was subjected to a lengthened discussion and met with considerable opposition, the chief objection being that it would invest overseers with the power of enfranchising at pleasure.

Lord J. BROWNE moved to amend the amendment by adding a proviso that the collector or overseer should make the demand within one month from the publication of the rate, or in default should be liable to a penalty of £1 for each omission, but on a division the proposal was negatived by 327 to 48.

Resuming the debate on the principal of making the demand,

Mr. DENMAN urged that, as overseers were frequently political partisans, they might, for party purposes, neglect to demand the rate, and thus disqualify the occupier; he thought, therefore, it was but just that there should be no disqualification until the rate had been demanded.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL observed that he had drawn up the clause in accordance with an understanding, come to with Mr. Denman when the third clause of the bill was being considered, that some such section should be brought up. He added that in voting for the clause on the present occasion, he did not consider himself precluded from opposing it on the report.

The Committee then again divided, and the clause was negatived by 207 to 205. The division was marked by a very peculiar feature; the great mass of the Conservative party going into the lobby against the clause, whilst Ministers found themselves in the singular position of having for their followers all the principal leaders and the great bulk of the Liberals. The announcement of the numbers on the division was accompanied by loud and protracted cheering from the Ministerial benches, and followed by a warm and excited discussion, which was led off by

Mr. GLADSTONE, proclaiming with much irritation that the Attorney-General, in declaring that he proposed the clause whilst he reserved to himself the right of voting against it hereafter, had struck a deadly blow at all those principles of confidence between the Executive and the various portions of the House, by which alone, amidst their controversies and differences, it was practical to conduct the public business.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL vindicated the course he had taken as being perfectly consistent with the principles of fair play.

Mr. Denman, Mr. Secretary Hardy, Colonel Glyn, Mr. Cardwell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Bright, &c., also took part in the discussion. Soon after its conclusion the House resumed, and at six o'clock the sitting was suspended.

THE IRISH REFORM BILL.

On reassembling at nine the House was engaged for a long time in discussing a motion of

Mr. C. FORTESCUE, "that this House considers it essential to the satisfactory settlement of the question of Parliamentary Reform that there should be an amendment of the law relating to the representation of the people in Ireland as well as in the other portions of the United Kingdom; and considers it desirable that, in accordance with the promise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Government should introduce their bill upon that subject during the present Session."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER having promised that one of the first acts of the Government next year, if in office, should be the introduction of a reform bill for Ireland, the motion was ultimately withdrawn.

MONDAY, JULY 1.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE called attention to the grievous persecution of the Jews of Moldavia by the Government of that State.

Lord MALMESBURY deprecated a premature discussion on the subject, on the ground that he intended to produce all the correspondence with reference to it.

Lord DE GREY raised a sharp discussion on the recent memorandum authorising volunteers to interfere for the suppression of riots. Several peers expressed their disapproval of the circular, and ultimately Lord Longford promised that, if not withdrawn, it should at all events be revised.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Lord STANLEY, replying to a question of Mr. Baxter, said that although the negotiations with the United States Government, regarding the "Alabama claims," were not proceeding rapidly, there was nothing which led him to despair that they would not be brought to a satisfactory settlement.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Mr. Secretary HARDY stated, in reply to Lord B. Cecil, that the probability was that the Government would introduce a bill next Session relative to weights and measures.

THE REFORM BILL.

In Committee on the Reform Bill, the discussion on Colonel Dyott's clause enacting that freeholders, copyholders, or leaseholders within Parliamentary borders, or residing within seven miles thereof, should vote for such boroughs, was resumed; and the motion was opposed by Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Glyn, Mr. C. Howard, Mr. Bright, Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. Gladstone, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It found supporters in Mr. D. Griffith, Mr. B. Hope, and Mr. Vance; and was ultimately negatived.

Mr. CANDLISH proposed a new clause, to the effect that no elector employed for reward at an election should be entitled to vote under penalty of misdemeanour—a proposition which he supported partly by reference to the curious circumstances recorded in the report of the Select Committee, that at one of his elections Mr. Neate, one of the members for the city of Oxford, engaged the services of 159 canvassers and poll-clerks, out of whom 120 gave their votes for that honourable gentleman.

Mr. NEATE excited a loud burst of laughter when, in reply to this unpleasant reminder, he protested against the "wide range" of Mr. Candlish's observations.

Mr. CANDLISH, however, notwithstanding this remonstrance, continued to extend the circle by examples from Beverley, Gloucester, Nottingham, and Reigate at the late general election. With the assent of the Government the clause was read the second time, and ultimately ordered to be inserted in the bill.

The Committee then proceeded to discuss the motion of Mr. Horsfall—that Liverpool, Birmingham, and Manchester should each have a third member.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated, on the part of the Government, that the motion would not only be agreed to, but that Leeds should be included in the number of boroughs to which a third member was allotted. He said, however, that this concession would involve a rearrangement of the schedules, and that Salford must be content to forego the extra member that had been promised.

General FEELE said he should vote against the motion of Mr. Horsfall as he had voted against that of Mr. Laing to a similar effect. He had been convinced of three things in the course of the discussions on the Reform Bill—namely, that nothing possessed so little vitality as a vital principle; that nothing was so insecure as securities; and that nothing was so elastic as the conscience of a Cabinet Minister.

Mr. GLADSTONE having deprecated the threatened withdrawal of the promised additional members to Salford and other large towns, and urged that small boroughs were the right source from which to obtain seats for the readjustment of the representation, progress was reported, and the House resumed.

TUESDAY, JULY 2.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House sat for an hour and a half and advanced several bills a stage; but their proceedings involved no matter of general or public interest.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.

Lord STANLEY, replying to an inquiry of Lord B. Cecil, stated that the Viceroy of Egypt had, at the request of the Sultan, postponed his visit to this country for a few days. With regard to the arrangements for his Highness's reception, he would be received at the French coast, and conveyed by special train to London, where every honour would be shown him; and the Queen had authorised his being invited to Windsor.

THE REFORM BILL.

Mr. DENMAN asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he intended to bring up a new clause defining the way in which rates are to be demanded; whereupon the right hon. gentleman reminded Mr. Denman that he and Mr. Locke had promised to bring up a clause, and all he (the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER) felt bound to promise was that he would give to Mr. Locke, who had fulfilled the promise, the opportunity to discuss the clause he had prepared.

Mr. ROEBUCK, referring to the concession made by the Government on the previous night, to give a third member to each of the boroughs of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds, complained that Ministers, in taking that course, had broken faith with those who had supported them a few evenings before in resisting the motion of Mr. Laing to increase the representation of the six largest towns in England. On that occasion he had voted with the Government, although the borough of Sheffield was one of the six places included in the motion; and, as they had abandoned the position they then took by conceding a third member to four of these places, he contended that Sheffield ought to be included in the category as well as Leeds.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER reminded the Committee that all the Government clauses had been disposed of, and that those which remained for consideration had originated with independent members only. The policy of concession had been carried as far as Government could go, and it was now his duty to announce on their behalf that they were prepared to resist the further disfranchisement of any borough, and oppose all propositions having that object in view.

Mr. HENLEY congratulated the Government in having arrived at that determination, and entreated them to firmly adhere to it.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then moved to amend Mr. Horsfall's clause, giving a third member to each of the towns of Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, by adding the town of Leeds to the list.

Mr. HADFIELD proposed the addition of Sheffield. After some debate the Committee divided, and resolved by 258 to 122 that Sheffield should not be included in the clause.

Mr. H. BARKLEY next proposed to insert the city of Bristol, on which another debate took place; and the Committee once more divided, and the motion to insert Bristol was negatived by 235 to 136. The city of Manchester, and the boroughs of Liverpool, Birmingham, and Leeds were then inserted in the clause to return three members each to serve in Parliament.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr. Bright, stated that the four members given to Liverpool and the three other towns must be found in the schedule of boroughs which it was proposed to partially disfranchise, and that he would explain the *modus operandi* on Thursday. The clause was then ordered to be added to the bill.

Mr. HIBBERT moved a clause of general application declaring the payment of expenses for carrying voters to the poll illegal; and some discussion followed, in the course of which the mover consented to limit his clause to boroughs. The Committee were engaged in the discussion of the clause when the time arrived for reporting progress, and the House resumed and soon after suspended the sitting.

MARTIAL LAW.

At the evening sitting there was an interesting discussion on a motion brought forward by Mr. O'Reilly in reference to martial law.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. BANS OF MATRIMONY BILL.

The second reading of the Banns of Matrimony Bill was moved by Mr. MONK. The bill explains the meaning of certain words in the Marriage Act, and declares the legal time for the publication of banns. It proposes to render valid all marriages which may have been declared by Ecclesiastical Courts to be null and void owing to the publication of banns having taken place at an illegal time; and it also proposes to relieve all clergymen from the pains and penalties to which they are made liable under the Marriage Act for having celebrated marriages for which the banns were published at an illegal time.

Mr. BRESFORD-HOPE opposed the bill, and moved that the second reading should take place three months hence.

Ultimately the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill read the second time.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN IRELAND.

Sir COLMAN O'LOGHLIN moved the second reading of the Roman Catholic Churches, Schools, and Glebes (Ireland) Bill. The object of the measure was to enable limited owners to grant sites not exceeding five acres for a Roman Catholic church or schools, and not exceeding twenty acres for a Roman Catholic glebe, reserving, however, the best rent that could be got for the same. It also provided that the successor of the limited owner should give his sanction; but in the event of his declining to give it then a lease should be granted with the approval of the Landlord Estates Court, and the lease should be made to the Roman Catholic Bishop and his successors, instead of, as at present, to the Bishop and his trustees.

Mr. NEWDEGATE met the motion with an amendment that the bill be read the second time that day three months, on the ground that it ran counter to Sir Robert Peel's Charitable Bequests Act, and to the principle of mortmain, which applied to the whole of the United Kingdom, though the law itself might not technically apply in Ireland.

After some discussion the House divided, and the second reading was negatived by 119 to 75. The bill was therefore lost.

THURSDAY, JULY 4.

HOUSE OF LORDS. THE LUXEMBURG TREATY.

Lord HOUGHTON rose to ask the First Lord of the Treasury what is the construction which her Majesty's Government place on the words "collective guarantee" ("garantie collective") in the second article of the treaty of May 11, 1867, relative to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

The Earl of DENBY said that whatever interpretation the Government might put upon the treaty, it did not affect the terms of international law. He did not wish to repudiate anything not to shirk any responsibility which devolved upon them by reason of the treaty. There was a distinction between a collective and a single guarantee—by the former no one Power was compelled to take arms to support the treaty, but by the latter each party severally was.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DEATH OF MAXIMILIAN.—POSTPONEMENT OF THE REVIEW.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose shortly after six o'clock, and, amidst breathless silence, made the following announcement:—"I am commanded to say that, official information of the death of the Emperor Maximilian having been received, it will not be in the power of her Majesty to attend the review of her troops to-morrow; therefore, that review is postponed. It is postponed only for a few days; when her Majesty trusts she may meet not only with her troops, but with her faithful Lords and Commons. I have been desired not to lose a moment in making this communication."

THE REFORM BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on this bill, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER remarked that everyone would admit that the Upper House should have time to consider the bill, and observed that, subject to the modified clause of the hon. member for Liverpool, the general opinion of the Committee appeared to be in favour of the Government's scheme. He therefore suggested that they should immediately proceed to the consideration of the schedules, otherwise the progress of the bill might be very indefinite. With respect to the schedules, a great deal of detail might very well be left in the hands of the Boundary Commissioners; and, if this were done, no inordinate time need be taken up with their discussion. To meet the additional seats required for the large towns, he proposed to leave out of the list of new boroughs those of St. Helens, Keighley, Luton, and Barnsley. After a lengthened discussion the clause was carried by a majority of 166 to 101 upon the understanding that it was to be made applicable only to boroughs, except East Retford, Shoreham, Cricklade, and Aylesbury.

NEW ROYAL RESIDENCE IN THE HIGHLANDS.—Her Majesty, who has since her annual visits to Deeside been making improvements year by year around Balmoral, is having a somewhat extensive house for her occasional accommodation built on the south-west end of Loch Muick. The want of such a retreat must have been long felt, as her Majesty frequently drives to the loch, and when sketching or visiting the more distant places on that side of Lochnagar, has had sometimes to stay over night at "the Hut," where the accommodation is limited. To obviate this want is the purpose of the building now in course of construction. The site is in a very wild and picturesque locality. On each of three sides of it, and within a few hundred yards of the house, rise the bold rocky mountains that guard Loch Muick, while on the fourth side an unbroken view of the loch will be obtained. A bridle-path leads to the Dan Loch, on the south-west, where numerous falls descend and variegated the increasing wildness of the scenery in that direction. The house will be large enough to accommodate her Majesty and a limited suite for a night, and will take two seasons to build. Its isolated position may be imagined when it is known that it is about seven miles from the nearest farmhouse, and nearly four miles from the nearest habitable dwelling, the latter being the house of one of her Majesty's gamekeepers.—*Scotman.*

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The preparations for the approaching Bury St. Edmunds meeting of this society are now rapidly drawing to a close. Although it will not be possible to hold a cattle show this year, the amount usually absorbed by cattle prizes has been added to the horse prizes, and an unusually excellent show of horses is expected to be the result. The show of implements will be of unparalleled extent. A great additional attraction is offered by a national show of plants, flowers, fruits, &c., which will be held simultaneously at Bury St. Edmunds under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society. The great horticultural gathering will be held on a site which was formerly a vineyard belonging to the grand Abbey of St. Edmund.

BISHOP PERCY'S CHURCH.—Easton-Maudit is a village in the county of Northampton, quite in the heart of the country, retaining much of its simple character, as in days of yore, consisting of a few picturesque farm-houses and cottages grouped together at irregular intervals, and has now a population of but 207 people. The living is in the gift of Christ Church, Oxford, and to it, in 1753, was nominated a student of the house, one Thomas Percy, M.A., hereafter to be not the least of the many distinguished ornaments of English literature. The church where he ministered for above twenty years, guiding the rustic and the lowly born, stands close to the roadside. It consists of nave, with side aisles, and chancel, and has at the western end one of those graceful spires for which Northamptonshire is so famous, earning for it the title of the county of "Spires and Squires." Judiciously, and in a loving spirit, has the church been restored by the present Marquis of Northampton, whose stately seat, Castle Ashby, embowered amongst some of the finest trees in England, forms a conspicuous object from the quiet churchyard. And, a lesson to church restorers of the present day, every inscription has been transferred carefully to the encaustic tiles now forming the pavement. In front of the chancel lie buried three of Percy's daughters, all of whom died young; and in the Yelverton chapel, on the north side of the chancel, are many fine monuments of that family, which played a conspicuous part in English history, and upon which the earldom of Sussex was subsequently conferred.—*Once a Week.*

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SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1867.

THE LATE EMPEROR MAXIMILIAN.

THE last act in the ill-fated Mexican expedition has been the most tragic of all. It is, we suppose, beyond a doubt that the Emperor Maximilian has fallen a victim to the fury of the Juarists, who, in executing him, were probably of opinion that they were only retaliating in a fitting manner for the similar acts committed by the Imperialists. Nearly every Court in Europe will be plunged into grief by this sad event. The mother of the late Emperor of Mexico was cousin to our Queen, and he was more than a relation to the Emperor of the French. In Mexico he was Napoleon's acknowledged representative. He arrived there to carry out one of that Sovereign's most cherished schemes; and even after the French had formally withdrawn, it was felt that the success of Maximilian would be a triumph for Napoleon III., as Maximilian's death will, no doubt, be felt to give additional shame to the French defeat. Not that there is anything essentially shameful in the French having retired from a position which no amount of gallantry could have enabled them to maintain. But the withdrawal of the French troops at the dictation of the American Government was already looked upon as a humiliation; and this feeling will certainly be intensified by the news that has now been received of the Emperor's protégé and representative having been put to death by the so-called "Liberals" of the country.

Steps were taken several months ago to avert the calamity, and, if Juarez could have been induced to listen either to fair arguments or to offers of bribes and ransom-money, the unfortunate Prince would be now alive. It appears that the Austrian Imperial family had agreed to reinstate Maximilian in all those rights at home which, on proceeding to Mexico, he had voluntarily renounced. When the news of his having been taken was received in Europe, every means that could be thought of were taken to procure his liberation. The Ministers of Austria, France, England, Prussia, and Russia at Washington were at once communicated with, and were instructed to address themselves to the American Government and to solicit their active intervention in case of its appearing that the Emperor's life was in danger. The Austrian Minister was naturally the first to request this intercession, which was readily enough granted. It is said that the Queen of England made a special appeal on the ground of her personal relationship to the Mexican Emperor; but the agents of Juarez appear never at any time to have held out much hope that the representations of the foreign Powers would be attended to. Their attempts to justify the severest measures were grounded on a theory that the Emperor Maximilian was a foreign pretender, who would always remain a pretender, and round whom some sort of party would always be ready to form itself.

This was absurd, however. The Emperor had held out to the last. As long as he retained one town in Mexico to defend, he had defended it. But, having thus tested the feasibility of his enterprise to the extreme point, and having seen it fail utterly and beyond hope, it is not to be supposed that, in the event of being set free, he would have thought of remaining in Mexico at all. The Imperial family had resolved as we were before saying, to reinstate Maximilian in all his former rights; and he was in such a plight that he could not help seeing that the position of an Austrian Archduke was, after all, a much better one than that of chief of an imaginary and impossible Mexican empire. The Emperor of Austria, moreover, was prepared to give positive pledges in testimony of Maximilian's renunciation of the Mexican throne.

In the first instance, the question of ransom was not brought forward at all; but it is known, and Juarez himself must have been aware, that sacrifices to any extent would have been made at Vienna to save the life of the Emperor's brother. It seems that the project of ransoming the illustrious captive was really being entertained when the news of his death reached Vienna. But, although Mexicans would certainly do anything—even refrain from cruelty—for the sake of money, it was doubted whether the offer of a ransom might not have the very contrary effect to what was intended. If enough money could have been sent out to buy the favour of the whole Juarist party it would have been different; but it was feared that if a sum were offered to Juarez alone he would hesitate to accept it, lest by doing so he should endanger his popularity with his followers.

But all speculations as to how the life of the gallant Maximilian might have been saved are too late now. No doubt seems to be entertained in official quarters as to the fate that has really befallen him; and it is announced that her Majesty has decided on putting off her state ball, unless a formal contradiction of the present reports should be received.

What the effect of Maximilian's death will be on the future of Mexico it would not be very safe to predict. His execution will answer no purpose that could not equally have been attained through his forced abdication and retirement. However, the country will now be open once more to American influences; and there is certainly more chance of Mexico being—we will not say civilised, but at least debarbarised—by the efforts of Americans than by those of Frenchmen. The establishment of a Mexican empire under French patronage used to be described as a grand scheme for establishing the power of the Latin race on the American Continent—just, by-the-way, the very thing that Mr. Feward so strenuously objected to! That scheme has entirely collapsed. Whether the French went to Mexico, in the first instance, to enforce pecuniary claims, or in the hope of enriching themselves by working the rich mineral districts with which the country abounds, or whether the loftier idea of regenerating the Mexicans by introducing among them the civilisation of "the Latin race" animated them, it has, in any case, been found impossible to bring Mexico under the power, direct or indirect, of France. France, too, will be powerless to avenge the death of the exponent and exponent of French policy in Mexico. Poor Maximilian was as much in the power of the half-savage Mexicans as our own "Abyssinian captives" are at this moment in that of King Theodorus. To place Juarez under a ban, to refuse to hold intercourse with him, to excommunicate him in a political sense, as it was once proposed to excommunicate the Emperor of Russia, would have no effect upon him at all. No Prince in these later times has met with a sadder fate than that which has befallen the Archduke Maximilian; and when the detailed accounts reach us we shall, assuredly, hear that no one could have met it more calmly and courageously.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY, IN COUNCIL, has been pleased to grant a charter of incorporation to the Poor Clergy Relief Society.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES has promised to lay the foundation-stone of the new St. Thomas's Hospital if the state of her health permits.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN has been appointed Ranger of Windsor Great Park.

THE QUEEN, it is said, has invited the Emperor and Empress of the French to be present with the Sultan at the grand naval review to take place at Portsmouth. If the invitation should be accepted, Queen Victoria will receive their Imperial Majesties on board her yacht.

THE QUEEN has commanded that the "Life of the Prince Consort" should be forthwith undertaken, and to the pen of Mr. Theodore Martin, the accomplished translator of Goethe's ballads, her Majesty has committed the task.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES was able on Monday, for the first time since her illness, to take an airing in the garden of Marlborough House.

THE AMERICAN FRIGATE SACRAMENTO has been wrecked on the coast of India.

MRS. ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the widow of the martyr President, has left Springfield, Illinois, and now resides in Racine, Wisconsin.

COLONEL WILSON PATTER, the newly-appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has of course had to go to his constituents for reelection, and on Monday he was returned for North Lancashire without opposition.

THE LORD MAYOR and several aldermen of the city of London have made a state visit to Paris. On Sunday they presented an address to the Emperor Napoleon, who received them with great cordiality.

LORD MONCK was sworn in as Viceroy of Canada on Tuesday. The reports of the harvest in Canada are all favourable.

THE LORD MAYOR and the Lady Mayoress will have the honour of entertaining the Viceroy of Egypt at a banquet at the Mansion House on Thursday next, the 11th inst., his Highness having been pleased to accept an invitation given him by the Lord Mayor in Paris.

THE LIST OF BELGIAN VOLUNTEERS who will visit England has closed; 2161 have inscribed their names, and of this number 1065 are from Brussels, 365 from Antwerp, and 295 from Ghent. The list includes volunteers from all towns except Menin.

THE PERSONALTY OF THE LATE MR. CLARKSON STANFIELD, R.A., has been sworn under £20,000.

A LADY at a NEW YORK BALL, recently, wore 80 dobs. worth of curls on the back of her head.

CARGOES OF RIPE FRUIT leave Honfleur at four p.m. and reach London, via Littlehampton, at nine a.m. the next morning.

MR. HENRY COLE, C.B., English commissioner at the Paris Exhibition, is to be created a Baronet.

A THUNDERSTORM, attended with calamitous results, broke, a few days back, over the mountain of Tarnage, in the Ardèche. The lightning killed instantaneously a shepherd and 293 sheep.

A FRENCH GIANT FROM THE VOSGES, measuring 8 ft. in height, has just been to Paris, for the purpose of measuring himself against the Chinese giant exhibiting there. The Chinaman was beaten.

A PLOT OF LAND, &c., situate near Lancaster-gate, purchased by the late Edward Orme, Esq., some years since for £1600, has been recently sold by Messrs. Edwin Fox and Bousfield, by the direction of trustee s, in lots, realising altogether the sum of £21,380.

THE GOVERNMENT have determined to entertain the Sultan at an official fête, and the Indian Council and the Secretary of State for India are to have the charge thereof.

MDME. RISTORI, it is now said, will return to America in the autumn, taking with her a new play, on the story of Marie Antoinette, which will make its first appearance there.

THE DECISION OF THE COURT MARTIAL on Captain Jervis, at Simla, has been confirmed, and he is no longer in her Majesty's service. He is to receive £1800 for his commission.

MR. LAING, M.P., has retired from the Great Eastern Railway Company, owing to the fact of the position of the company being much worse than was supposed when he was recently induced to join it, and the conviction that the rejection of the bill recently promoted for an adjustment of its affairs puts all hope of any palliative action out of the question. The Court of Chancery has appointed a receiver to manage the company's financial affairs.

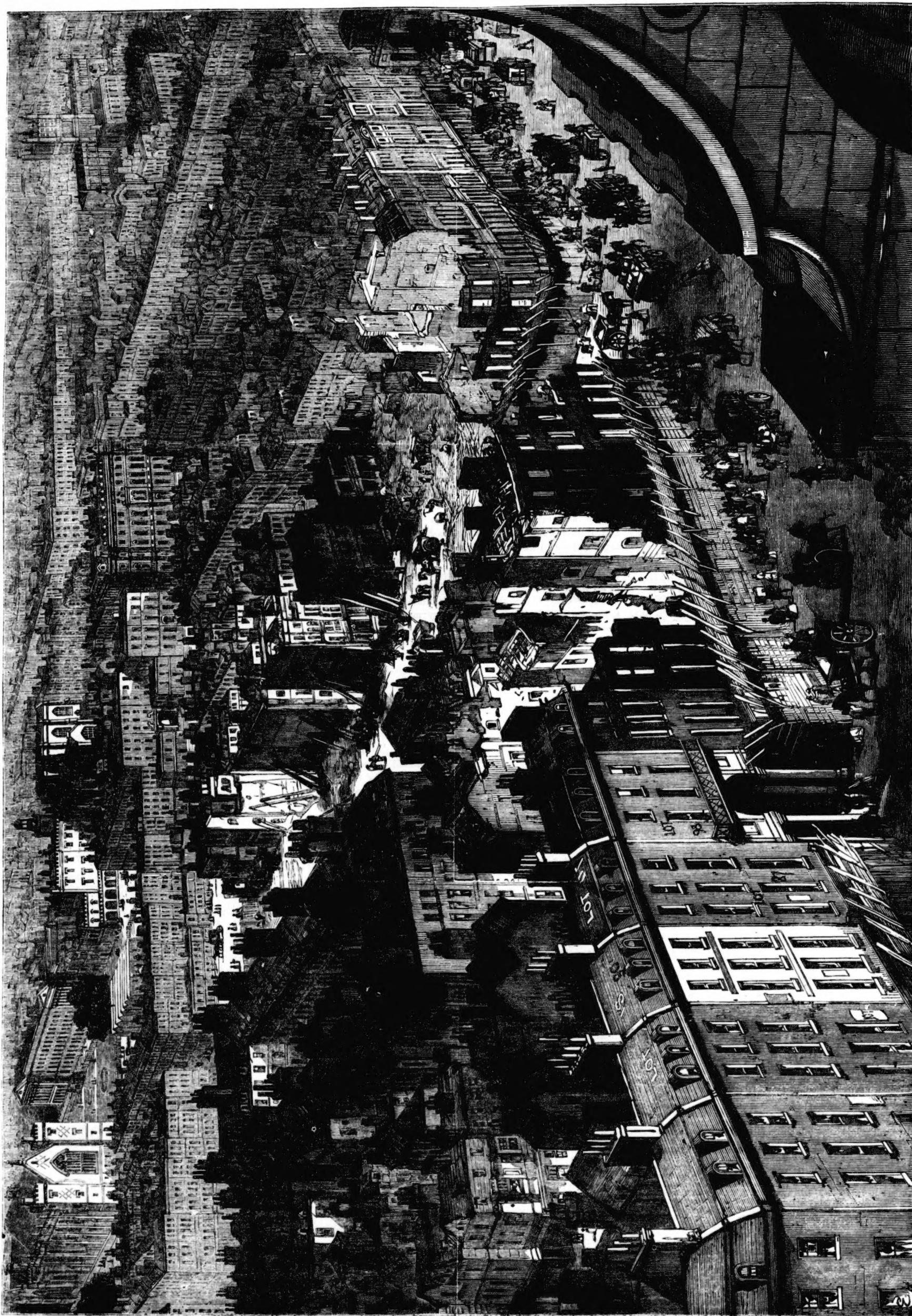
A BOTTLE was picked up in the Sound of Sleat, on the 20th ult., which contained a slip of paper on which the following words were written in pencil:—"Sprung a leak in the Minch—ship Diana, of Hall, laden with paraffin; no hope; ship going down. Master, John Todd." Some casks of petroleum have been washed ashore on the neighbouring coasts.

MR. TYRWHITT, the magistrate at Marlborough-street, has granted a summons against the president and secretary of the Master Tailors' Association, on a charge, preferred by Mr. Lewis on behalf of the London Operative Tailors' Protection Society, of conspiring to prevent journeymen tailors—namely, members of the union—from being hired or obtaining work from members of the Master Tailors' Association.

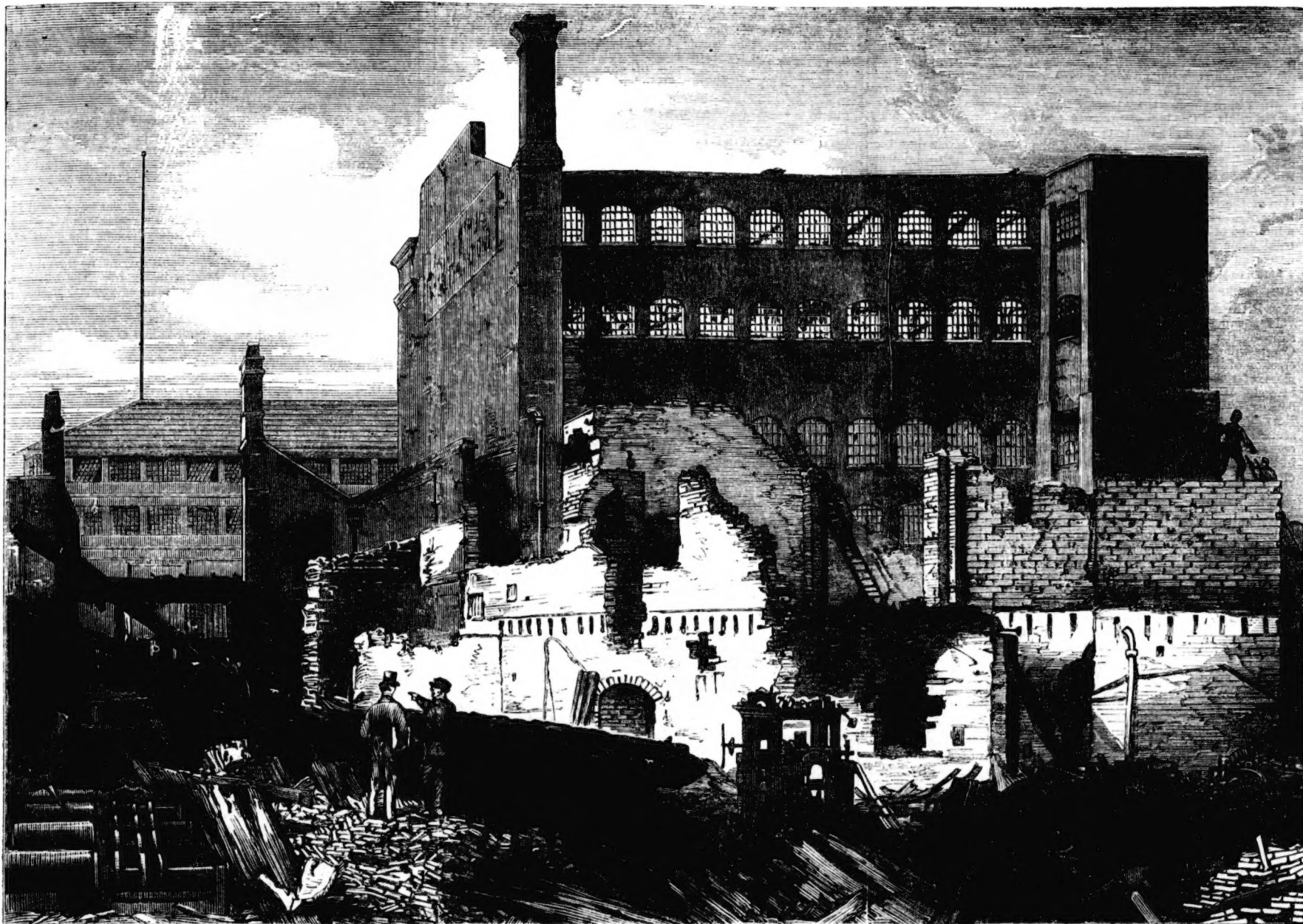
THE HUDSON RIVER has become so full of carp, or "gold fish," that fishermen take them by the wagon load. They originally came from a private fish-pond near Washington's headquarters, at Newburg, which communicated with the river by an outlet, through which the fish made their way to the main stream. They have bred with great rapidity, and have stocked the river.

THE POPULATION OF EGYPT is estimated to be about 3,000,000, of whom only 150,000 are Christians, the remainder being chiefly Mohammedans. The extreme length of Egypt is 520 miles, and the breadth from 350 to 400; but the land capable of cultivation does not exceed 17,000 square miles, a great part being either desert or mountain. Wheat is the principal crop; but coffee, sugar, tobacco, and cotton are easily raised and yield abundantly.

THE SHEFFIELD TRADES UNION COMMISSIONERS succeeded on Tuesday in ascertaining the perpetrator of an outrage committed in 1851. This was known as the Acorn-street outrage. It was intended to blow up a man named Wastnidge, but a woman was killed instead. This crime a man named Robert Renshaw confesses to have committed. He got £5 10s. for it altogether, of which sum 10s. went for buying powder.



THE WORKS AT THE SITE OF THE NEW LAW COURTS.



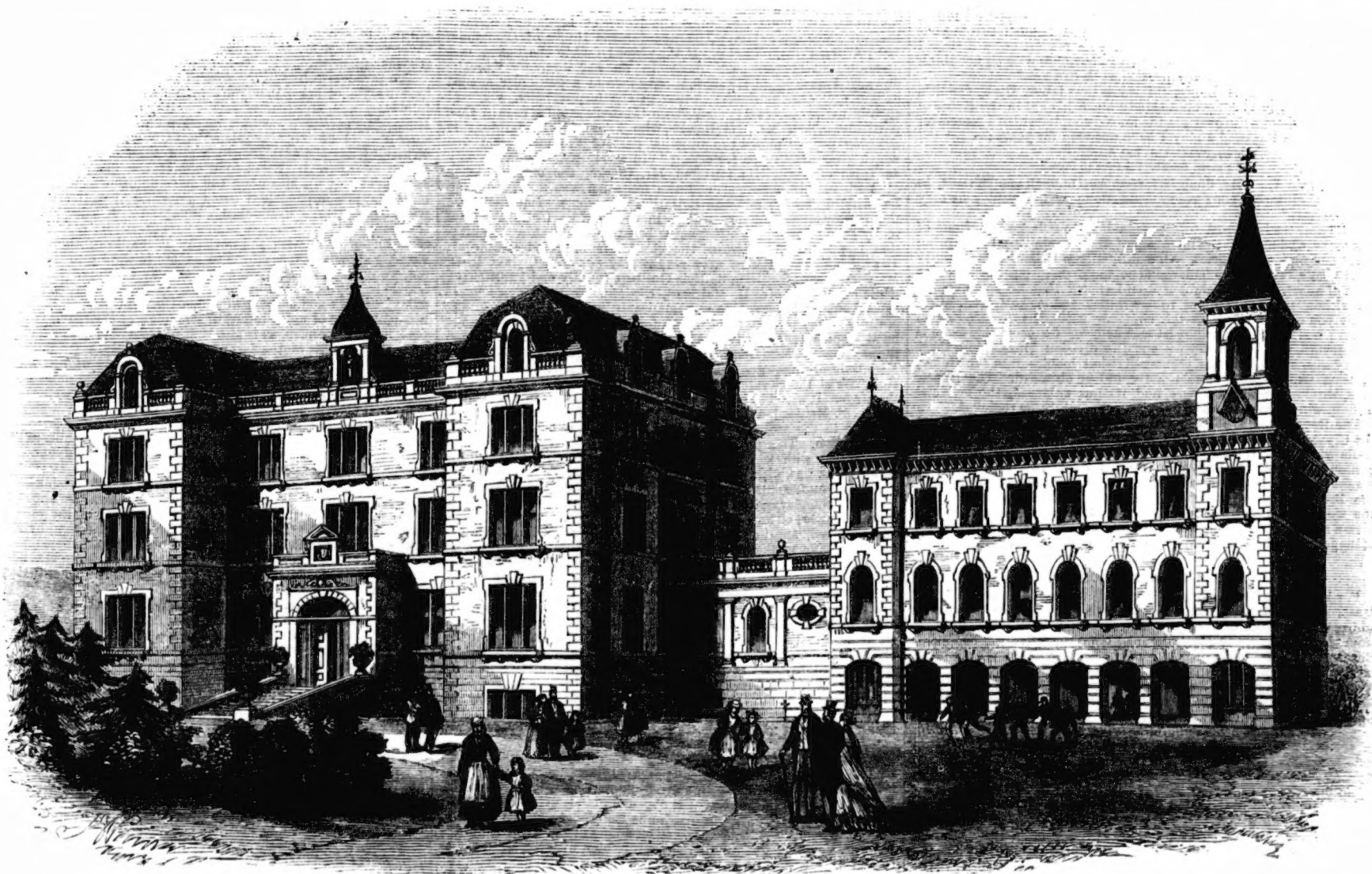
GREAT FIRE AT THE BUILDING-YARD OF MESSRS. MYERS, YORK-ROAD, LAMBETH.

GREAT FIRE IN LAMBETH.

BETWEEN three and four o'clock on Sunday morning a fire, accompanied by a large destruction of valuable property, took place in a lofty and extensive pile of buildings in Guildford street, York-road, Lambeth, in the joint occupation of Messrs. Nickells and Co., indiarubber manufacturers, and Messrs. Myers and Sons, the builders

and contractors. The premises, which were five stories high, occupied almost the entire of the west side of Guildford-street, and were connected with the principal works of Messrs. Myers on the east side by a bridge thrown across the street. The upper floors of the building were used for the indiarubber work, while the lower portion was used by Messrs. Myers as joiners' workshops, store rooms for joinery work, and for the machine department of their business. In the rear

and at the side of the building were extensive and numerous stacks of timber, some of a very rare and costly description. The fire was first discovered by a police-constable on duty in the Westminster-road seeing a large volume of smoke issuing from the second floor windows. He communicated with the watchman at Messrs. Myers', who at once proceeded to obtain the aid of a number of the workmen of the establishment living in the small streets surrounding



THE ROYAL ALBERT ORPHAN ASYLUM, COLLINGWOOD COURT, BAGSHOT, SURREY.—SEE PAGE 2.

the works, while a police messenger was dispatched to the Fire-Brigade station in the Waterloo-road. Before, however, any engines arrived the whole building, owing to the inflammable nature of the contents, was on fire from basement to roof, and floor after floor kept falling in until nothing but the bare shell of the building was left standing. The firemen succeeded in preventing a great amount of damage to the backs of the houses in the York-road, though they have by no means escaped injury. It was near ten o'clock before the fire was got completely under; but several engines were playing the whole of Sunday upon the burning masses of materials. The loss of property cannot well be estimated, but it will amount to, it is said, from £50,000 to £100,000. The whole of the valuable machinery in use by the Messrs. Myers has been destroyed, together with an immense quantity of finished joinery work in the store. Among the latter was a large quantity of costly work just prepared for the fitting-up of the Guildhall for the reception of the Belgian volunteers and the Sultan, and on which a large body of workmen have been occupied for some weeks past. About a hundred of the joiners have also lost the whole of their tools, the total value of which was about £2000. The above factory was destroyed by fire just seventeen years since, and partially destroyed about five years back.

PREPARING FOR THE NEW LAW COURTS.

It is much easier to pull down than to build up; and so, we suppose, the work of demolition at the site of the proposed Law Courts will occupy much less time than will be required for the erection of the edifices which will by-and-by take the place of the mass of rickety rookeries that now abut upon and disgrace the Strand. Huge gaps have already been made in the line of buildings between Temple Bar and the entrance to Dames Inn, as well as in Boswell-court and up towards Carey-street. Our Engraving represents the present aspect of the work; but the progress of the operations changes the appearance of things from day to day; and in the course of a few months, we presume, the whole site will be cleared.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

We have entered the month of July, and there is still a vast deal to be done before the Reform Bill can be sent to the House of Lords. All the Government clauses are added to the bill. But there is still a long array of clauses to be proposed by private members, and all the schedules, wherein lies really the redistribution of seats. At the rate at which we are moving, it will take another fortnight to get the bill out of Committee. Bringing up the report will be the next stage, and then a few more new clauses will be proposed, and then the bill will have to be read a third time and passed; but on this stage there will be no serious opposition, and therefore, probably, only one night's debate. But how this is all to be done before the end of July, passes my comprehension. Well, the bill being in the Lords, what will their Lordships do? Pass it, no doubt, and rapidly; but that they will pass it without some amendments is not to be supposed. These amendments, of course, will have to be considered in the House of Commons; and hence there may arise differences between the two Houses involving conferences, and possibly defeat of the bill. For, if the two Houses cannot ultimately agree, the bill will be lost. There is, however, scarcely a probability of this happening. Rumours say that the Lords will knock out the lodger franchise; and I should not be at all surprised if they were to do this. But, if they should, Disraeli, be sure, would not sacrifice his bill. Truth is, this lodger-franchise clause is in a very crude state as it stands; and, if the Lords do not reject it, they will probably amend it. As at present advised, I see no prospect of a vacation till the end of August. You will have seen that Lord Derby is ill. It is rumoured at the clubs that he has the gout more severely than he has ever had it before. And men begin to ask what may happen if he should be unable to attend in his place to conduct the Reform Bill. "Of course," said my friend Bogg, "he cannot use his proxies; and if they should come to a division in the Lords, the loss of proxies, fifty in number, may be fatal to the bill." Whereupon I replied, "Are you so ignorant of the Constitution of your country, Bogg, as to suppose that a peer can hold fifty proxies; he can only hold two, Sir." "Only two! Why, the Duke of Wellington, it is well known, held more than fifty." "Not well known—not known at all; but only said to be, as you are now saying, well known. Now, I see you are staggered." "Yes, I am, and I think you are mistaken." "Do you? Then to the law and the testimony. Here is 'May's Practice of Parliament,' and here is an extract from the Lords' Standing Orders: 'No Lord of this House shall be capable of receiving above two proxies.' Now do you believe?" "Well, I suppose I must; but I can tell you this, Mr. Lounge, if you publish this in your paper, you will enlighten and astonish your readers not a little. I do not believe that there are ten men in our club who do not think that a peer may hold as many proxies as he can get."

"By-the-way," said Bogg, "I think that fellow Darby Griffith, who is constantly kicking up a shindy about his hat in the House of Commons, should write over his title an old couplet which I remember in 'Bombastes Furioso,' a play I have not seen for years:—

Whoever doth this hat displace,
Must meet Bombastes face to face."

"Good," said I. "He, doubtless, sees the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, in which I shall insert your recommendation; and, possibly, he may take the hint."

A Committee is formed to ascertain how to enlarge the House of Commons, and already the members of the Committee are peering about and making inquiries. One difficulty will be the enormously thick walls, which any enlargement must disturb; another, the want of space. At first sight it would appear that no space can be got without infringing upon rooms which cannot be spared. Certainly you cannot lengthen the chamber without infringing upon rooms; but I think it might be widened, for on each side there is a courtyard, and, by throwing out the division lobbies into these courtyards, and taking the present division lobbies into the House, at least two hundred more seats could be obtained. The House, then, would be nearly a square, and, if thus enlarged, the artificial ceiling, which was put up to cure the echo, might be removed.

The Royal Dramatic College fête and fancy fair will be given at the Crystal Palace on July 13 and 15. In addition to the usual stalls which will be occupied by the most attractive of our metropolitan actresses, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, just returned from America, will give a new entertainment, "Faust in Five Minutes;" the Brothers Payne, from Covent-garden Theatre, will introduce the wonderful Covent Garden donkey; Miriam, the pianiste, will give a series of concerts; and Richardson's Show and Wombwell's Menagerie will be reinforced by a host of curious novelties.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

For his article in the *Cornhill* on "Culture and its Enemies" Mr. Matthew Arnold, who republishes in this form a portion of his last address in the Chair of Poetry at Oxford, will catch it pretty soundly from the *Spectator*, the *Examiner*, and the *Nonconformist*, I suppose. But first of all, let us have no misunderstanding about the meaning of the word Culture. When Culture merely means training to a specific end, the general training of the individual being sacrificed to that end, any wise man may usefully interpose a criticism; but to Culture in Mr. Matthew Arnold's sense of the word no sane man can possibly oppose himself, meaning, as it does, the rectification of the point of view, amid the minor interests of life, by lights reflected from those which are magnificent and universal. Mr. Arnold does full justice to Puritanism; but no one can refuse to follow his lead when he says, with his usual felicity, that Shakespeare and Virgil would, with good reason, have found the Pilgrim Fathers disagreeable company. Yet Mr. Arnold's article is throughout characterised by the most irritating perversity. He complains of the motto of our admirable contemporary the *Nonconformist*—namely, "The dissidence of Dissent and the Protestantism of the Protestant religion," and sets against it the words of the Apostle Peter—"Finally, be ye all of one mind,

united in feeling" (in our version, "having compassion one of another"). This Mr. Arnold calls "an ideal which judges the Puritan ideal;" he might just as well have said it is abracadabra which judges abracadabra. It is not an ideal at all; it points to the means of seeking after an ideal. Does Mr. Arnold know who it was that said—"I am persuaded the Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth from his Word?" That is the meaning of the motto of our contemporary. It comes to this:—"We will be of one mind in seeking after perfection and in helping each other; but, inasmuch as no one can be sure he has got to the end of the path, we will keep everything open to fresh lights. We are Protestants, but hold ourselves at liberty to protest; we are Dissenters, but hold ourselves at liberty to dissent." Now, Mr. Arnold is at liberty to say that certain classes do not cultivate "sweetness;" but he is not at liberty to say that a polemic motto, chosen in polemic times, with an incidental reference (like that of the Order of the Garter) represents an ideal; for it does nothing of the kind. Again, Mr. Arnold asks, with great confidence, whether the England of Elizabeth was not greater than is the England of Victoria. The true answer is, nobody knows; but there is no obvious reason to think that an era in which "The individual withers and the world is more and more" is a smaller era than was one in which great individuals came splendidly to the front. It is an open question. But, apart from any details of criticism upon Mr. Arnold's matter, it is the duty of every journalist (and I hope the subject will be taken up throughout the country) to call attention to the spirit and tendency of his social criticism. That sort of "Culture which believes in making [!] reason and the will of God prevail" usually manages to show the cloven foot. I call attention to what the *Spectator* some time ago so happily described as the unblunted "edge of dogma" that lies half-concealed in all that Mr. Arnold writes. I call upon public writers to watch and distrust him. He is a most insidious ally of the party of centralisation, whether in religion or in politics; and I never read his praise of "sweetness" without thinking of the "sweetness" of a certain centralising religious power which used to hand over heretics to the civil power, with the "sweet" injunction that no blood should be shed. The rest we know.

The new serial tale commenced in the current number of *Once a Week* is entitled "Carlyon's Year," by the author of "Lost Sir Massingberd."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

It is all very well calling me a Theatrical Lounge; but, in the present dull and depressed state of the theatrical market, whither am I to wander in search of food? There is really nothing going on. I have no novelty to chronicle this week, and shall consequently have to content myself with recording the few revivals which have taken place since I last put pen to paper.

I beg pardon. If there has been no novelty, there has at least been more than one eccentricity this week. The better half of a Bishop and the "cara sposa" of a Duke have been singing in public at Exeter Hall; and as if to show that there is yet some dramatic "go" left in the aristocracy, I beg to announce that a philanthropic Marquis and a nobly-born M.P. have been kicking up their heels at the STRAND THEATRE. Philanthropy seems, after all, but a means to an end. Mark the progress of philanthropy. Marquis Townshend is philanthropic, and founds the Universal Beneficent Society in Duke-street: good. Marquis Townshend and his young men get up an amateur performance for the Universal Beneficent Society at the Bijou Theatre and play Mr. Byron's burlesque of "Ivanhoe": good. Marquis Townshend and his young men, having played for the Universal Beneficent Society and studied their parts in "Ivanhoe," are enabled to walk alone, unaided by the stick of charity, and are prepared to play "Ivanhoe" for any excuse under heaven: better than all. The opportunity has come, and, for the benefit of Mrs. Swanborough, manageress of the Strand Theatre, Marquis Townshend and his young men have played "Ivanhoe" on a real stage, before real footlights, and to a real Strand audience. As an actor, the noble and philanthropic Marquis has certainly not improved since last I saw him act. Some years ago I had the pleasure of witnessing his first dramatic effort at the St. James's Theatre. He played in the "White Horse of the Peppers" and did not know a line of his part. He was then Viscount Raynham, and had about two "lengths" to study. He is now a Marquis, and the other night he had about six lines to speak. But without the prompter, even with six lines, the Marquis is nowhere. The Marquis looks well upon the stage, and is a happy compromise between Mario and Count d'Orsay; but, honestly, I don't consider him a good actor. However, philanthropy has done good service; for Mrs. Swanborough had a bumper house, and pit and gallery called loudly for the dramatic representative of the House of Lords and cheered him till they were hoarse. And now for the House of Commons. Lord Arthur Pelham Clinton, M.P., played Cedric the Saxon, and distinguished himself particularly in an extraordinary "break-down." I have heard it said that only men of a particular mental calibre ever distinguish themselves in the terpsichorean art. If such be the case, Lord Arthur Pelham Clinton's mind is cast in that particular mould. Mr. J. G. Bowles, who, I am told by a fashionable morning paper, "played the principal part of the piece, and one which gives great scope for acting," did not impress me favourably as Isaac of York. He imitated Mr. Clarke, the original Isaac of York in this burlesque, and the imitation was not good; and he imitated Fechter, and the imitation was worse. Imitations are the most "touch and go" things in the world. Unless they are really good they had far better never be attempted. A weak imitation is painful. The rest of the characters trusted to Marquis Townshend's troupe were very respectably performed. Mr. R. R. Maidland played Sir Brian de Bois Guilbert funnily and ferociously; while his brother, Mr. L. Maitland, a giant in stature, made great capital out of Rebecca. He was admirably made up in a burlesque costume of the present fashionable feminine period, and whatever he attempted was skillfully and artistically done. The amateurs had the assistance of Miss Ada Swanborough, gushing as ever, as Rowena; Miss Bufton, a most graceful and charming Ivanhoe; and Miss Elise Holt, one of the cleverest dancers and most piquant actresses on the stage. It would be a great shame were I to omit mention of little Master F. Maitland, a charming boy in velvet knickerbockers, who came on in the tournament scene and danced a hornpipe simply to perfection. This plucky little fellow well deserved the thunders of applause with which his efforts were greeted, for of all the amateurs he was, without a doubt, the best artist.

At the SURREY THEATRE, after a too long absence from the stage, an old London favourite has reappeared. That essentially worthless drama, founded on an equally worthless novel—"East Lynne"—has been revived, and in it Miss Heath—now Mrs. W. H. Barrett—has been playing the principal character, originally impersonated by Miss Avonia Jones. I have very pleasant reminiscences of Miss Heath, but I cannot say that I care to see her playing in "East Lynne," as at present represented at the Surrey Theatre.

I strayed into the NEW ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE in Holborn the other night, and found that the programme had been materially altered. For the dismal farce originally given a ballet with the absurd name of "Ki-ki-ko-ko-oh-ki-key" has been substituted. It is supported by the Lauri family, excellent pantomimists in their way. By those who love the good old-fashioned circus business and very tolerable horsemanship, a not unenjoyable evening may be spent. London is large enough to support a permanent amphitheatre, and the general performances in the Holborn certainly entitle it to support.

With very much regret, I learn that Miss Furtado is no longer to be a member of the ADELPHI company. It is a thousand pities that so sprightly and intelligent an actress should be lost to London even for a few weeks. Mr. J. Gates is called on twice every evening, so the playbills say. Mr. Eburne remains the *jeune premier*, and Mr. R. Phillips, Mr. Stuart, &c., the stock actors of the establishment; but I very much doubt whether those worthies, unaided, will be able to support the fortunes of the Adelphi Theatre.

Next week Miss Amy Sedgwick appears at the HAYMARKET in a rough adaptation of an old French melodrama,

PARIS GOSSIP.

The shoals of well-dressed sightseers who now crowd Paris enjoyed a grand jubilee in the early part of the week; they had, first, the entry of the Commander of the Faithful; and then the grand ceremony of the distribution of prizes. Some undefined rumours of a painful kind were flying about; but they had no effect upon the pageants, nor upon the eager crowds which flocked to gaze at them. On Tuesday evening, however, the execution of Maximilian was no longer to be doubted; and reviews, state dinners, Hôtel de Ville balls, and grand theatrical performances have been countermanded. Whether the Emperor of Austria will now come is matter of doubt; the prevailing opinion is that he will avoid the Tuileries carefully. A very strong feeling finds expression in private society as respects the terrible responsibility of this Government in the matter; and the fate of Maximilian weighs more in condemnation of the Mexican expedition than the loss of fifteen millions sterling and the injury to the French name and prestige.

It was noticed that the Count of Flanders was not present at the ceremony of Monday last; and so much surprise was felt when his brother, the King of the Belgians, lately became the guest of the Emperor that it took the usual epigrammatic form of expression:—"Why does he visit the man who banished his mother, drove his sister mad, and murdered his brother-in-law?" The allusions are bitter, but are as close to historic truth as poetical license ever approaches.

Rossini's Hymn to Napoleon III. has for some time past been greatly bepraised. Well, its performance on Monday by the monster orchestra of 4000 executants, was a humiliating failure. Everybody present seemed ashamed of it, with its grand finale of rolling drums and firing of cannon. From the grotesque style of the "dedication" and the character of the music (?) itself, people shrewdly suspect that the veteran maestro, who is a bit of a wag, has succeeded in perpetrating a mystification, and that no one laughed more heartily than himself and his intimates at the success of the trick. But I must tell you that a great deal of indignation is felt at a farce of this kind being played off on such an occasion and in such a presence.

No English name appears in the list of those who were decorated with the Legion of Honour. In the first place, an English subject cannot accept a foreign decoration without his Sovereign's license; and, in the next place, no Englishman—except, perhaps, some members of the City Corporation now in Paris displaying their robes and insignia—would take the Legion of Honour, if he might. Mendelssohn, whose music to the choruses in "Athalie," now revived at the Odéon, is worth a hundredfold all the courtly pageants of the Sovereigns, and who liked a joke, once drew up a *projet de loi*, to be adopted by the Legislature:—"Article 1. All Frenchmen are decorated, and must wear the red ribbon. 2. Are exempted, such Frenchmen as have performed acts of courage or rendered some service to their country."

FINE ARTS.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT EXHIBITION AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

The second exhibition of national portraits commences with the reign of William and Mary, and brings down the series to the year 1800. The period thus embraced is a most important one—full of interest of every kind. It is a period, moreover, which is sufficiently recent to enable us to decide, with a fair show of accuracy, on the genuineness of the portraits to be exhibited and the names of the painters to whom they are attributed. Anyone, therefore, who happened to be unacquainted with the South Kensington system would suppose that care has been taken by persons whom the nation pays to attend to the interest of art (and not to kotoo people of distinction) that no portrait shall be exhibited unless well authenticated. It is most important that the authority of the Government Department of Science and Art should not be lent to perpetrate error. But the South Kensington authorities decline to do anything which entails labour or threatens a collision with "noble patrons"—as if a national art department needed patrons!—and we have presented to us a collection of portraits "strictly labelled and catalogued as described by their owners;" in other words, an exhibition of national portraits on the authenticity of which we can no more rely than on a parvenu's gallery of Wardour-street ancestors. Such flunkeyism, as this gross neglect of one of the plainest duties of a national educational department implies, must make us ridiculous in the eyes of foreigners, and cannot but prove fatal to the very interests which South Kensington is supposed to foster. Ignorance has done as much as wilful fraud to pass off pictures as portraits of persons whom they do not in the least resemble, painted by artists with whose styles they have nothing in common. Too great care could not have been taken to exclude these if the collection is to be of the slightest use to the student of history.

The earlier portraits in the present exhibition are, as a rule, in the lowest style of art. Vandyke's immediate successors had left no followers, and until the time of Hogarth, Gainsborough, and Reynolds portraiture was at a very low ebb in England, if we consider it as an art. It is not improbable, however, that the likenesses of this inferior age were more truthful than the idealised portraits of the later period. Faces look out of the gloomy canvases with such vivid expression among the poor daubs which occupy space here that it is impossible to avoid a feeling that, if art is wanting, truth has not been overlooked. Rembrandt, Kneller, and Lely are the most noted contributors to this part of the series. In the reign of Anne we meet with the works of Richardson, whose heads invariably show vigorous efforts to adhere faithfully to nature. Here, too, we find the graceful pencil of Gervas employed in portraying female beauty in an age by no means destitute of loveliness. The galaxy of wits and authors who flourished in Anne's reign makes this period one of much interest. The reign of George I. is richer in portraits of statesmen, as is also that of George II.; to which, moreover, the portraits of the last of the Stuarts gives attraction, while Hogarth and Reynolds invest it with the charms of real art. The portraits belonging to the reign of the third George finish the exhibition, and abound in pictures which, for treatment as well as subject, command attention.

To survey the exhibition in the order of date:—One of the pictures which—if the department had taken the trouble to authenticate the works it exhibits—would throw a valuable light on history is that of "John Graham, of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee" (13). The handsome, frank, kindly face it shows would establish beyond question the propriety of the title of "Bonnie Dundee," and dissipate many a dark story that hangs about the memory of the gallant and ill-fated Viscount. The pictures of Sir Isaac Newton, by Kneller, Crosse, and Thornhill—perhaps we should say attributed to those painters—are so utterly at variance with each other, even allowing for difference of age, that we can hardly avoid the belief that one at least is not authentic.

Portraits of Betterton, Dryden, and Locke occur here, and will repay examination and comparison. And here we may suggest—though it is perhaps useless to give suggestions to the authorities at South Kensington—that if the department will not compare duplicate portraits, they might at least give the public the option of doing so, by hanging all the likenesses of one man together. The portraits of "John Churchill" (81), and "Sarah, his Duchess" (78), are very interesting. The Duchess's picture bears out the claim to beauty which writers of the period make on her behalf. There will be found here a curious portrait of Prince Eugene.

The portraits of Steele, Addison, Vanbrugh, and Congreve hang conveniently for comparison. That of Congreve thoroughly bears out the character which Thackeray sketches in "The Humourists of the Eighteenth Century;" but the portraits of Steele and Addison, to judge of them by the descriptions given of their dispositions, might almost seem to have changed names. Pope's portraits are scattered, which is inconvenient. Richardson's portrait (136) of the poet seems to us to have much evidence of truth. Swift figures several times—flattered in one or two instances, we suspect. Hester Johnson, "Stella" (142), cannot surely be a good likeness—it has

neither prettiness nor intellect. The Duchess of Queensberry—Prior's "Kitty, beautiful and young"—lives again in several canvases, and seems to have been fortunate in her choice of painters. Gay, by Bells, Hogarth, and Richardson, should not be overlooked. The portraits of the Old and Young Pretenders and the Cardinal of York should be compared and noted for the Stuart characteristics. There is a vigorous and lifelike picture of "Lord Stair" (230), which stands out with an almost modern brilliance and finish. Hereabouts, too, we must note "Lady Wortley Montagu" and "Dorothy Walpole," and a curious "Hamlet Winstanley."

With George II.'s reign we come upon "The Duke of Cumberland," whose counterfeit presentment justifies his name of "butcher"—a coarser and more cruel face never employed artist's pencil. "The Young Pretender" and "Flora Macdonald" will be viewed here with interest. The portrait of the latter bears the stamp of truth. The likeness of "Colonel Gardiner" is one not to be overlooked.

From this period to the end of the century the notabilities crowd in such numbers that our space will not allow us to mention all the noteworthy pictures; but we may mention the portraits of Peg Woffington, Mrs. Hoggath, Mrs. Cibber, Smollett, Sterne, Goldsmith, Walpole, Hume, Watts, Handel, Wolfe, Elizabeth Gunning, Garrick, Maria Gunning, Nancy Parsons, Mrs. Sheridan, Olive, and Lord Elliot.

The picture of the "Hell-fire Club" will be viewed with curiosity, as will also Zoffany's scene of "Hunter and the Royal Academy." Reynolds, Romney, Angelica Kauffman, and Gainsborough figure on the walls as sitters as well as in their artistic capacity; and so do Morland, Hoppner, Nollekens, and West. The best, most charming, and least time-ravaged canvas in the whole exhibition is that whereon Gainsborough has painted the refined, brilliant, clever face of his wife. The moralist as well as the sentimentalist might find a text in the exceptional success which affection and genius achieved in this truly delightful work.

Eliza Farnen, Warren Hastings, Jenner, Wesley, Howard, Dodd, Chatterton, Walcott, Cowper, Macklin, Burnes, Watt, Lord Thurlow, Pitt, Canning, Curran, Sheridan, Erskine, Fox, Blackstone, Mackenzie, Mary Wollstonecraft, Gibbon, Tooke, Burke, Johnson, Mary Horneck, her sister Catharine, Boswell, and Kitty Fisher are also among the portraits that will claim attention and excite interest. A curious portrait of "Lt.-Col. Hon. Arthur Wellesley" should not be overlooked.

Lawrence, Raeburn, Stothard, and Opie appear among the painters of the later period.

We are quite at a loss to conceive why, in a national portrait exhibition, we have a picture described in the catalogue as "The Fortune-teller"—three half-length figures. A gipsy fortune-teller is examining a girl's hand. Canvas, 67½ x 48½ in. Is it a picture which is exhibited to please a noble patron, or is it a portrait which the catalogue omits to describe?

The exhibition is a large one—too large. Had the portraits been carefully sifted of doubtful pictures, we should have had a less fatiguing collection. The gallery is utterly unfitted for the exhibition of pictures, being the refreshment department of the '62 Exhibition, looking out on the Horticultural Gardens, which just now look like a bankrupt cemetery, bare, bleak, and desolate, even in the warmest sunshine.

FIVE ARCHBISHOPS and twenty-two Bishops from the United States have had an audience of the Pope, to whom they presented more solid proofs of their devotion than mere empty expressions of homage. Among the offerings brought by these prelates was a silver model of Mr. Bennett's yacht, the Henrietta, with a cargo of gold in her hold worth 45,000 dols.

NEW BOROUGH.—The populations of those boroughs which, according to the proposed amendment of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are to return one member each, are thus epitomised in a Parliamentary paper that has just appeared:—Luton, 22,291; Darlington, 16,901; Hartlepool, 27,475; Stockton, 16,483; Gravesend, 24,525; St. Helen's, 41,345; Burnley, 37,984; Stalybridge, 56,931; Wednesbury, 92,635; Middlesbrough, 28,366; Dewsbury, 38,559; Barnsley, 30,849; and Keighley, 34,186.

THE SULTAN.—We are informed that the Sultan has accepted the invitation of the Secretary of State for India, and that his Imperial Highness will be present at a ball to be given at the new India Office, on Friday, the 19th inst. We believe that this invitation emanated entirely from the authorities at the India Office, who are using every endeavour to make the entertainment worthy of the occasion, though at the same time they regret that want of space will limit the invitations at their disposal. The Sultan will arrive on the 12th inst.—Times.

ROSE SHOW AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The first flower show at which roses only were exhibited was held at the Crystal Palace in 1860, and since that time the display has been yearly repeated with gradually progressive success. The great rose show of this season was held on Saturday last, at the palace; and, though the collection may not have been as large as that brought together on similar occasions in former years, some of the specimens exhibited would have been formidable rivals in any previous competition. The grand nave was covered by an artistically-constructed awning, which stretched the whole length of the building, with an interval at the centre transept. Beneath this, at the end nearest what was the tropical department, the cut roses were arranged in trusses of moss, among which some beautiful specimens of exotics were tastefully interspersed. At the opposite end roses in vases were arranged, and with them, too, some exquisite pelargoniums and tricoloured geraniums. At the end of the table erected for holding these stood what was perhaps the most interesting single feature of the show. This was the Perseus clata, called in English the "dove plant." Nature certainly seemed to have availed herself of the mechanism of art in the ingenious formation of this delicate floral rarity. Its flowers are large and round, and within each the petals form a perfect design of a dove feeding in its nest. From this, as may be conjectured, it derives its English name. It is difficult enough to describe a show in which plants of every species are exhibited, but it is almost impossible to give any adequate idea of a display in which different flowers of the same name and kind are placed in picturesque juxtaposition of each other. We may, however, particularise some of the principal specimens, and, in doing so, we shall begin with roses in pots. In this class the first honour fell to Messrs. Paul and Sons, of Chesham. Among their collection was a magnificent flower called the Duke of Wellington, of a dark crimson colour; and next to it in merit the Souvenir de Dr. Jamin, an extra fine dark violet flower, of a very peculiar tint—so dark, indeed, that when placed in certain positions it appears almost black. The tea-scented and noisette roses, which are now being cultivated so extensively, formed a conspicuous feature in the show; and the thick, almost solid, golden petals of the Marechal Niel were thrown into unusual prominence by the dark citron and bristly sulphur yellow of its "lovely companions." In the classes of roses in trusses, Messrs. Cranston, of Hereford, and the Messrs. Paul obtained the highest prizes for nurserymen; and the corresponding rewards for amateurs fell to Mr. J. T. Hedge, of Colchester, and Mr. E. N. Pochin, of Sibley Vicarage, Loughborough.

TRADES UNIONS AND THE SHEFFIELD OUTRAGES.—A crowded meeting of the members of the Metropolitan Trades Unions was held at Exeter Hall, on Tuesday evening, to express their horror at the crimes committed by Broadhead and his accomplices, at Sheffield. Several trade unionists addressed the meeting, all joining in the strongest condemnation of the offences declared at the Sheffield Commission, but at the same time protesting against the injustice committed by those persons who sought to connect the general body of trades unionists with the offences committed in a single town by a small knot of conspirators. Professor Beesley, who was loudly applauded, addressed the meeting, and said that he was of opinion that a murder committed by trades unionists was no better nor no worse than any other murder (cheers); and he thought that when the meeting was over enough would have been said of the Sheffield atrocities. The frequent assumption of an apologetic attitude was destructive to self-respect; and he said so regardless of the probability that the use of the expression on that occasion would induce certain persons to stigmatise him as an apologist for murder. No one abhorred murder more than he did. It was well known that he subscribed money for the purpose of having a murderer punished (cheers)—a murderer who committed his crimes in the interest of his employers, just as Broadhead did it in the interest of workmen. The individual to whom he referred, instead of being answerable for a few murders, was responsible for four hundred murders, and he was now at large, not on a certificate of indemnity, but because a bench of magistrates of his own class refused to send the case before a jury (cheers). He saw no reason why the trades unionists should take blame or shame to themselves for what had been done at Sheffield; he saw no reason why they should hold their heads an inch less high, or abate their demands upon the Legislature. The middle class would go on talking about the outrages for a long time; but he hoped they would thwart the object thus sought—namely, to divert their minds from their claims upon Government. The law, as it stood, made a police magistrate commit more crimes in a week than Broadhead committed in a year. If a tailor told another tailor that he would not work with him, he was brought before the magistrate and committed for trial before a jury of employers and a bench of middle-class magistrates, and sent to the treadmill. The law also, while punishing ratteners by trades unionists, encouraged ratteners against them, and afforded them no protection whatever; and the result was, that a sense of wrong from defects of the Legislature made men outstep the bounds of legality.

Literature.

Turkey and the Crimean War: A Narrative of Historical Events By Rear-Admiral Sir ADOLPHUS SLADE, K.C.B. (Mushaver Pacha.) London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

Much as has been written about the Crimean War, we are inclined to think that there is plenty of room for Sir Adolphus Slade's book, because the Western Powers know but very little what Turkey herself thought of the whole affair. The Admiral, having a command in the Turkish fleet, and being a Pacha into the bargain, may be almost looked upon as a Turk in his own person; and, if he tells us but little of what the Orientals thought, he may at all events be considered as speaking for them. In this light the book will be found the most curious piece of literature relating to those remarkable historical events connected with the Eastern question which occurred in the Crimea, the Principalities, &c. Twelve or thirteen years after those events Admiral Slade comes forward with another picture of the truth, which is at least stronger or more highly coloured than any that has been yet accepted. The new or improved view is, in every respect, that the Turks were right, and the English and French wrong; although, indeed, the Admiral does now and then discover some fault with his semi-adopted countrymen; but that may be attributable to a habit of mud-spattering, to which the little services of Armstrong, Whitworth, and Palliser in the noble art of hard-blow giving would seem puny and inconstant efforts. Time has in no way healed Great British sorrows at the many national mistakes made before Sebastopol. Everybody knows the blunders. But it remained for Admiral Slade to show that Generals St. Arnaud and Canrobert had only gained their laurels by shooting Parisians in the Faubourgs; that Lord Raglan was only a reflection—we presume of the Great Duke; that Admiral Hamelin was, apparently, not worth mentioning; and that Admiral Dundas (to put it very forcibly) was not Admiral Slade. However, mixed up with these personal matters, which, however true, do not read well, there is much to show that Mushaver Pacha was somewhat snubbed by the Allies; and that the Admirals in particular treated Ahmed Pacha, the Turkish Admiral in command, much as a disappointed English Captain would treat an accomplished and gentleman-like English First Lieutenant—i.e., with as much bullying as the First Lieutenant would submit to. Throughout the volume allowances must be made for Admiral Slade's excitability, and remembrance of wrongs or fancied wrongs to himself and to the Turkish people. The Eastern question has only "entered on a fresh phase" as yet, and this book will certainly challenge attention as part of its current literature. In that light, readers will doubt greatly how far it is politic and graceful in Admiral Slade to set fire to that oil which Time was casting on those troubled Turkish and Allied waters.

True, we have a gallant ally; but only Admiral Slade knows what he means. Years ago, it was commonly thought that the Allies fought the Czar in order to extinguish at once and for ever Russian ideas in the Levant—for any reason, indeed, rather than a sheer abstract love and admiration for the Turkish empire. Mushaver Pacha scarcely alludes to this, but gravely gives the political history of the "holy places" for the last hundred years. True, the holy places business had just something to do with the beginning of the dispute; but they were only a pretext, and need not occupy the time of any but very curiously perfect readers. No; only Sir Adolphus Slade and somebody else knew what our faithful ally meant. It was this: being Napoleonic, he must be Imperial, and that with a military halo. A la Mr. Gladstone, three courses were open to him. There was Germany for the Rhine boundary; but that, with his power unconsolidated, would arouse Europe. Isolation and dethronement might follow, without the preamble of a splendid drama ending at Fontainebleau. Then England, equally hazardous, because England might do as she had done before. Then Russia—disadvantageous again; but less disadvantageous than the others, and, indeed, the only thing. A motive could be found in irritating Russian ascendancy in reference to the always useful holy places; and, Russian aggression once commenced, it was easy to make assurance doubly sure by alarming England into alliance on account of her Eastern empire—which the Admiral, however, puts down as England's susceptibility concerning "the integrity of the Ottoman Empire." Then came the war.

It is surprising to find that, after the occupation of the provinces by the Russians and rejection of the Vienna note, that war should have appeared doubtful. But yet the allied Admirals in the Black Sea sent the Retribution into Sebastopol to inform the Russian Admiral that he need not be alarmed, since they were only there to protect the Turkish flag and territory from any act of aggression or hostility; adding that they sent the information with the view of preventing any collision between the Russian Government and theirs. No answer was returned to this letter. Again, it is strange to find that, when things look hopeless for peace, the French and English Ambassadors should promise all kinds of assistance which the French and English Admirals can, but will not, give. How far Admiral Slade is right in describing this as "disregarding professional etiquette" is a matter which must be left for officers and gentlemen to decide; but it is certain that it had a very bad effect on the Turks, who, indeed, appear to have been neglected throughout. Again (always taking Admiral Slade with caution), it is strange that the Western Admirals should have embarked their whole armies for Sebastopol when they had scarcely made up their minds to go there, and that the expedition was all but relinquished when half-way over. It was a rash step, in certain unfavourable conditions of weather, and when the Russian fleet could have come out and have done incalculable mischief. According to the present authority, the Admirals appear to have been always wrong, even to the point of upsetting every project laid down by the Turkish Government. Thus, circuitously, they succeeded in carrying out their original views as to the Turkish fleet, just as they had informed Mushaver Pacha they would do months before, at the time when he requested their want of courtesy. The expedition to Sebastopol, or preparations for it, marred an ably-designed Turkish expedition which had four good objects in view. They were, "First, to make Soukhoun Kaleh the base of Caucasian operations; attempted seventeen months later, then too late. Secondly, to reduce other Russian positions on the coast of Asia; abandoned a year later, unmolested. Thirdly, to unite the Circassians by Moslem co-operation, and by the stimulus of Imperial favours; also attempted fifteen months later, with trivial means, by the allies' agents, then too late. Fourthly, to show the Turkish flag to the Crimean Tartars and open communications with them in anticipation of the invasion of the Crimea by the allied armies."

"Why spare Odessa?" was a cry against the mercy of rose-water war which will be long remembered. Admiral Slade gives strange reasons why it should never have been attacked at all; but, as the civil portion of the town was, as far as possible, left uninjured, there was nothing done really contrary to the proper spirit of warfare. We have got rid of all our stock of rose-water since the suppression of the Indian mutiny.

Admiral Slade's book is written with the vigour of an accomplished sailor and gentleman, and deserves serious attention. It is a successful narrative, which only requires to be read with critical care to be of solid value. Surely, it cannot be that, from the moment when the fleets left the Mediterranean to the final surrender of Kara, the French and the English should have been all wrong?

Dealings with the Fairies. By GEORGE MACDONALD, Author of "Alec Forbes of Howglen," &c. With Illustrations by Arthur Hughes. London: A. Strahan and Co.

With a word of praise to the publishers for the manner in which this pretty little volume is got up, and another word of recognition to Mr. Hughes for his appropriate illustrations, we pass on rapidly to say that "Dealings with the Fairies" is a collection of stories for old and young children (as it has become the fashion to say), which are, to use another commonplace, which is in this case full of sig-

nificance, worthy of the author of some of the most delicate poetic prose of recent years. We are not sure we know a more charming child's book, or one which, while well calculated to fascinate the little ones and do them good, is more capable of doing the same for their seniors. The book, indeed, contains much profound meaning which will not be seized by every reader; but it contains little that is not interesting for its own sake, apart from its special significance: in a word, the stories are stories. Merely for the sake of justice, or by way of pretending to be severe, we will add that Mr. MacDonald is occasionally too ingenious to be poetic, and is too apt to allow the teacher to be seen through the person of the artist. Thus, it would have been better to leave out the sentence on the titlepage which warns the reader that there is symbolic teaching in the book; and the sudden, irrelevant observation about art dropped into the middle of the "Shadow Story"—though that is perfectly true. But these things are trifles; and, with an enormous public, it is always a recommendation to a book that it makes you conscious of a "purpose." At all events, "Dealings with the Fairies" is a curiously beautiful collection of tales for the young, which we warmly recommend.

Joyce Dormer's Story. By JULIA GODDARD, Author of "Ariana," &c. London: Bradbury and Evans.

"Joyce Dormer's Story" is supposed to consist—or the reader is expected to suppose it to consist—of leaves from the narrator's diary; and yet it is not a diary, only little bits here and there being given in the form of extracts from the private records of the writer's thoughts and experiences. The story, which is pleasant enough, is not of an especially stirring kind; in fact, it is very much in the "milk for babes" style of thing. There are no points of great originality to be met with. The characters—good, bad, and indifferent—are ordinary types of the schools of persons to which they respectively belong. Mr. Carmichael is a coarse, selfish, mean villain, of the most vulgar, commonplace nature. His wife, whose main characteristic is passive obedience of the most abject kind, excites some pity but not much interest. Joyce Dormer herself is a young lady with a strong tendency to fret herself about small fancied peccadilloes, but whose thoughts are seldom much out of joint, and her actions never. Doris is a very charming, impulsive, warm-hearted, self-willed girl, moved by fine feelings and capable of high-souled deeds, and yet often falling into little conventional scrapes, as such natures are apt to do. Her aberrations, however, never carry her far off the right track. The Lynn family, who are curiously mixed up in Mr. Carmichael's rascality, and suffer much from it, are, perhaps, more remarkable for their misfortunes than for anything else. These are the principal characters, if we except an artist, Mr. Chester, an early friend of Doris and of her mother, and who seems to be about the only strong-minded personage in the book. The work is interspersed with pretty ladyish bits of reflection, not remarkable for depth, and which are generally ostentatiously broken off with a "but to return;" "a truce to digression; let us resume our narrative," and so forth. We cannot help thinking that it was scarcely worth while to make so much of so little as is contained in these mental exertions. The story, on the whole, though pleasant and void of glaring faults, is somewhat weak, and equally void of striking features of any kind. It is a lady's production, and will, we dare say, be appreciated by ladies, especially young ones.

Hospitals, Infirmarys, and Dispensaries: their Construction, Interior Arrangement, and Management. With Descriptions of Existing Institutions, and Remarks on the Present System of Affording Medical Relief to the Sick Poor. By F. OPPERT, M.D., L.R.C.P.L., Physician to the City Dispensary, &c. London: Churchill and Sons.

This valuable work on hospitals and their management could not have been issued at a more opportune time than the present, when, the battle of workhouse infirmaries having been fought and won, the task must be undertaken of organising these institutions under the provisions of Mr. Gathorne Hardy's recent Act. Dr. Oppert is thoroughly conversant with his subject in all its branches and in every detail. He has made hospitals, their construction, and management, his special study, and is intimately acquainted, by personal observation and experience, as well as by extensive reading, with the systems in vogue on the Continent, as well as in England and America. Having studied in the great establishments of Germany and Paris, and for several years past had access to those of London, he is completely informed on all points; and his descriptions, plans, and remarks cannot fail to be of the utmost advantage to all concerned in the erection and conducting of curative institutions. Moreover, he brings to bear on his theme a singular degree of intelligence and acuteness of observation, besides clothing his thoughts in pure, nervous, and popular language; and has altogether made a most valuable contribution to the literature of a most important and vitally interesting subject. We have much pleasure in heartily commending this work, which is embellished with plans of hospitals, wards, &c., carefully designed and engraved, to everyone in any way concerned in the subjects of which it treats.

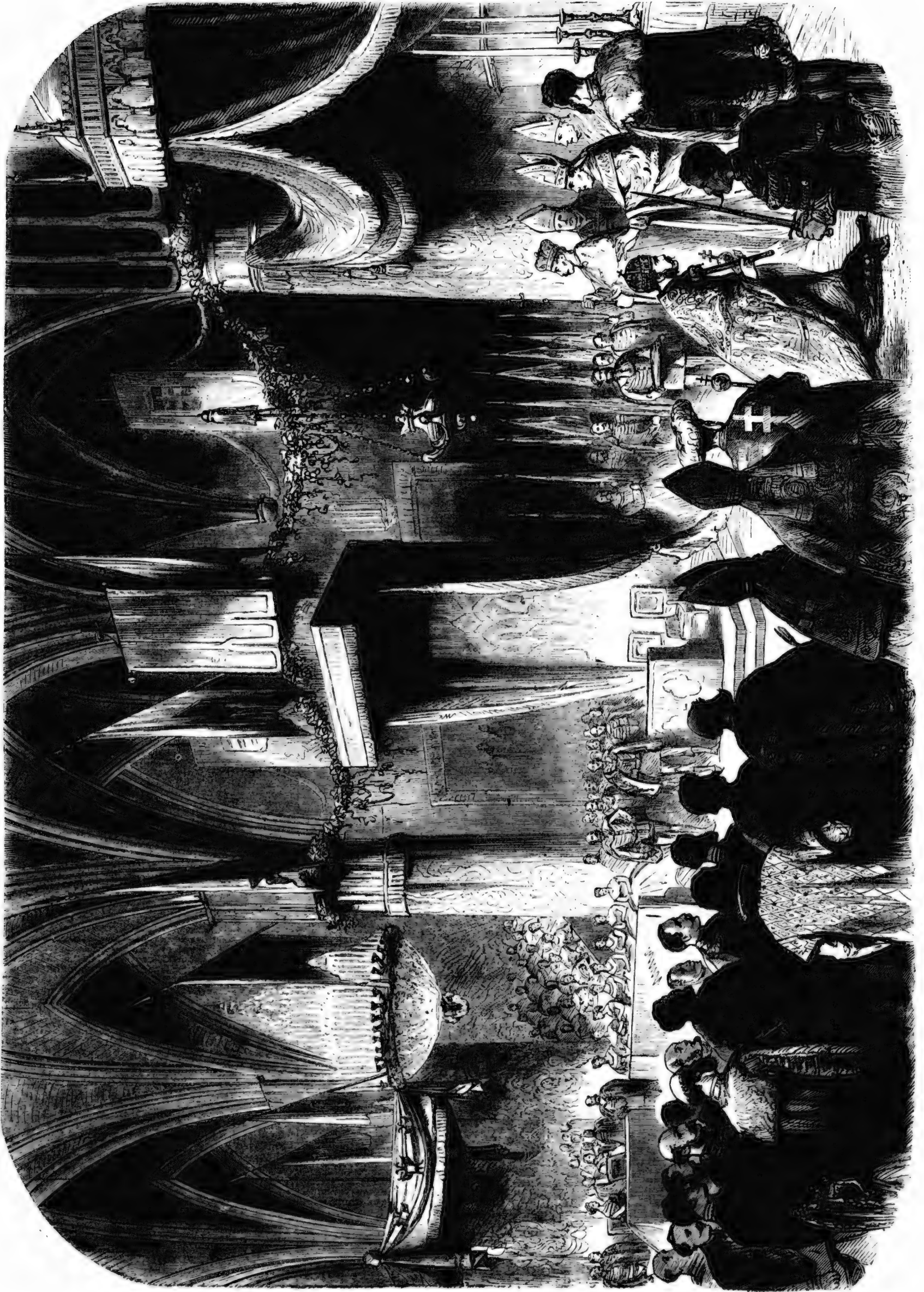
The Rail and the Rod; or, Tourist-Angler's Guide to Waters and Quarters Around London. No. II. Great Western Railway. By GREVILLE F. (Barne), Piscatorial Correspondent to the Field Journal. London: Horace Cox.

We have not happened to see No. I. of "The Rail and the Rod," the Guide to the Great Eastern Railway; but, having lately been over a portion of the ground described in No. II.—the district round Henley, Wargrave, &c.—we can bear personal testimony to the accuracy of our author's description of that region. In No. II., now before us, we are taken over the angling grounds on the Thames and its tributaries, from Windsor to Oxford; and, for agreeable fishing, beautiful scenery, good accommodation, and general civility, we doubt if the district has its equal in any part of England. The angler-tourist will find most valuable information in this guide on every point as to which he is likely to meet with difficulty. The hints as to inns, how to engage and pay fishermen, &c., are especially useful, as we ourselves have found. If any of our readers wish to enjoy a holiday in meandering about the Thames, they cannot do better than follow our example: possess themselves of this little guide, make Wargrave or Henley their headquarters, and explore the river and its affluents upwards and downwards. There is generally good sport to be had in the Thames near Wargrave, and in the Loddon, near its confluence with the larger stream. May we suggest to the author of "The Rail and the Rod" that he or his printer should bestow a little more care as to dates? It is somewhat queer to be told that "a body of cavalry, in the service of Charles I., took up its quarters at Fawley Court in 1662."

Railways, Steamers, and Telegraphs. A Glance at their recent Progress and present State. By GEORGE DODD, Author of "The Food of London," &c. London and Edinburgh: W. and A. Chambers.

The Messrs. Chambers have had some literary property which they have already given to the world finished up to the present time, the last great event amongst the subjects treated being the laying of the two Atlantic cables. This book is in reality something more than it professes to be, for it gives much history of ancient things which people of 1867 would scarcely call railways, steamers, or telegraphs. A more useful and interesting book for young people could scarcely be found, and every story of energy and perseverance is a good lesson in itself. In one well-printed volume, and double as at a small price, everything is told concerning these three great agents of civilisation. The style is plain and sensible; there is no writing up or down to anything.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S MANUSCRIPTS.—Messrs. Christie and Manson have given notice that by direction of the late Mr. Robert Castell, the Edinburgh publisher, they will sell by auction in London on Saturday (this day) the original manuscripts of Sir Walter Scott's poems and several of his novels and prose works. All the manuscripts, it is said, are remarkable for the small number of corrections or alterations occurring in them. They are uniformly bound in Russia, with uncut edges.



CORONATION OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AS KING OF HUNGARY IN THE CATHEDRAL AT OFEN (BUDA-PESTH).

THE CORONATION AT BUDA-PESTH.

IN our last week's number we gave an account of the coronation of the Emperor Francis Joseph as King of Hungary. We now publish two Engravings illustrative of the imposing ceremony. The first of these portrays the scene in the cathedral at Ofen (Buda), when the symbols of Royal authority were placed in his Majesty's hands. This scene we have already fully described. Our second illustration represents one of the most interesting events which immediately succeeded the coronation, and was, in fact, an almost indispensable part of the ceremony. Immediately after the celebration of high mass, the doors of the cathedral were flung open, and his Majesty, in the full insignia of Royalty, proceeded, with the entire Court, to the neighbouring church in the Royal palace. Here the King consecrated twenty-three Knights of the Golden Spur, the high order of Hungarian chivalry; and the whole cortège then proceeded to the bridge of Pesth in solemn walking procession, amidst the acclamations of the people.

THE GRAND DUCHESS OLGA.

THE Royal family of Denmark, of which the people of England knew very little until the last few years, has risen like a constellation, and now attracts the attention of Europe by the prominence of its members, not only by their conspicuous position, but from the alliances which they make with other ruling houses. They are amongst those who are fortunate enough both to have been born to greatness and to have greatness thrust upon them; but they also have the ability to achieve greatness, for it is a family of true aristocracy, of leadership, and of what in America would be called "raal grit"—that of Christian and his sad-eyed but sweet-faced Queen. We can see it, here in England, in the Princess Alexandra—she who has become our own by the very force of that bright intelligent beauty which took our hearts captive the first day that she came amongst us. The Russian Imperial house seem to have recognised it when it chose another Princess to be wife to its heir, and would not let death intervene to keep her from that throne to which it had called her. The Greeks have come to believe in it, and King George still reigns at Athens, even if he does not rule there. Now he, too, seeks an alliance with the Gottorp-Romanoffs. The young bride whom he seeks in marriage is worthy to share a throne, if intellect and beauty are Royal attributes. She is the niece of the Emperor of Russia and daughter of the Grand Duke Constantine, High Admiral of the Russian navy, and the Grand Duchess Alexandra, of Saxe-Altenburg, who has another daughter and four sons, besides the future Queen of the Greeks. The Grand Duchess, who has been sub-named Constantinova, was born on Sept. 3 (Aug. 22), 1851; and, by a privilege singularly accorded by Russian custom, is the proprietress of the Gloukoff Regiment of Dragoons, her sister and each of her brothers being similarly distinguished by their attachment to other regiments. The betrothal of the youthful Grand Duchess to the King of Greece has recently been solemnly concluded, and the marriage ceremony will shortly be celebrated.



THE GRAND DUCHESS OLGA OF RUSSIA, FIANCÉE OF THE KING OF THE GREEKS.

VISIT OF THE VICEROY OF EGYPT TO PARIS.

THE reception of His Highness the Viceroy of Egypt at Toulon was celebrated by all the ceremonies proper to be observed towards a Sovereign, the naval and military authorities joining in the efforts to do him honour; and the next day (Sunday) his

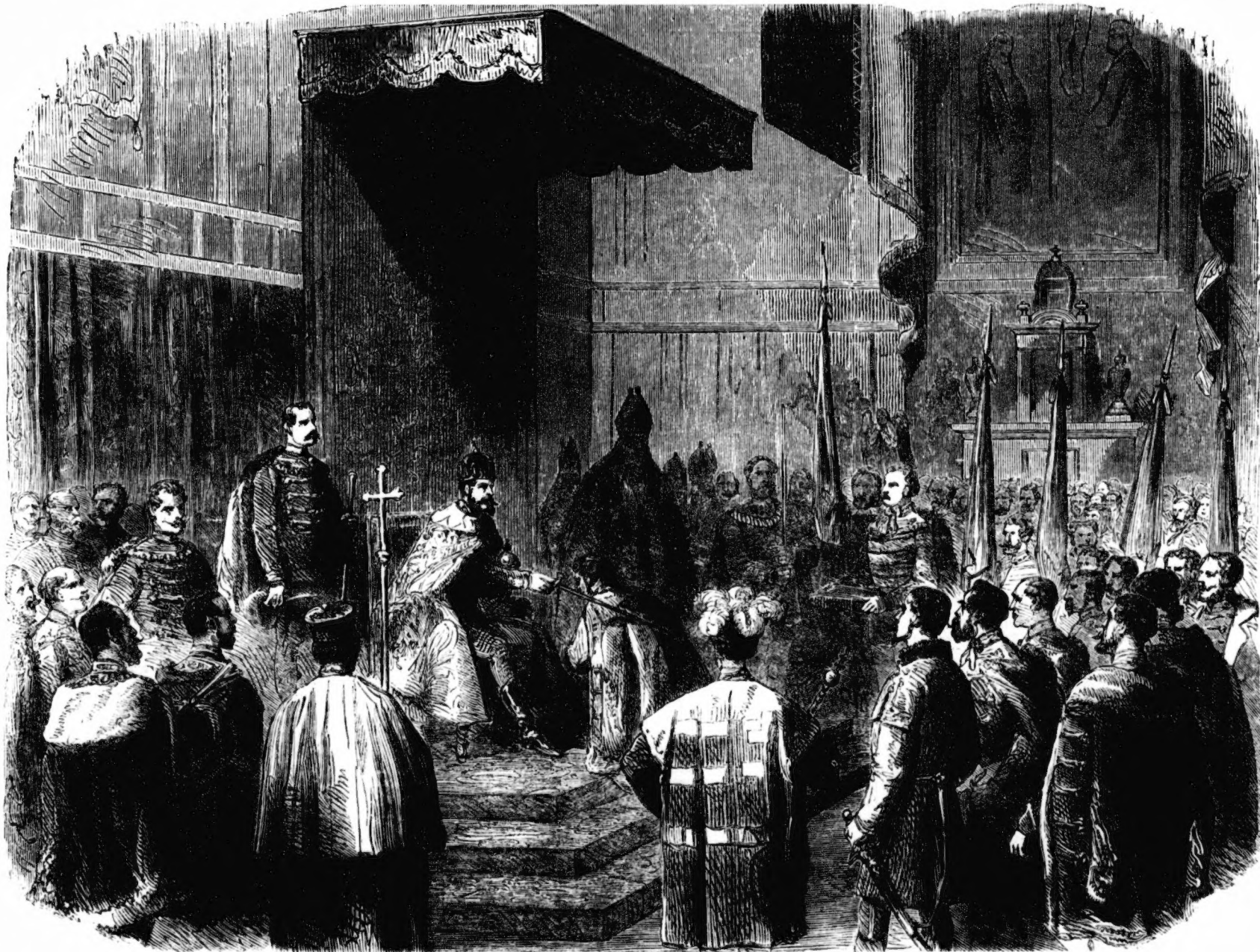
Highness reached Paris, where, however, he was received at the Tuilleries by the Empress only, the Emperor having been suddenly attacked with a sharp touch of rheumatism, which prevented his being present. The fact that the *Moniteur*, usually so reticent, made mention of his Majesty's indisposition, rendered it a subject of immediate anxiety, and, of course, the habitués of the Bourse found their account in it; but it was only a temporary indisposition; and the Empress is always equal to any amount of graceful courtesy and welcome. In addition to the Viceroy, her Majesty received the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Baden and the Comte and Comtesse de Flandre, these Royalties having arrived at the same time, as well as Prince Charles of Baden and the Duke and Duchess of Aosta. The Emperor had so far got over his twinge that he was at work the next day, but he feared the draughts and open staircases and flapping doors, which are all a part of a reception even at the Tuilleries, especially as the temperature in Paris has been as variable as it has been here.

The Viceroy occupied the apartments which had been vacated by the King of Prussia—the Pavilion Marston; and the whole time of his stay has been actively occupied in a round of visits and entertainments, for which he seems to display more good-humoured energy than his master the Sultan, whose recent arrival has a little eclipsed him. Of course there has been a great banquet and concert at the Hôtel de Ville. Orientals care nothing for dancing, except as spectators, and therefore there have been no balls; but the supper was a most brilliant one, and though only 500 guests were invited, the decorations and appointments were magnificent. His Highness arrived at seven o'clock, and was received by the Prefect of the Seine and the members of the Municipal Council. After having passed through the Salle St. Jean, transformed, as for the reception of the King of the Belgians, into a grotto of verdure, with cascades and fountains, the Viceroy ascended by the staircase on the left, at the top of which were Baroness Haussmann and other ladies. His Highness led the Baroness to the throne-room, where the banquet was laid; and after supper retired with his suite to a smoking-room specially prepared for him. At ten o'clock the guests invited to the concert arrived. The performances consisted of operatic music, vocal and instrumental; and the distinguished visitor left at half-past eleven.

Of course there has been a review for the benefit of the illustrious stranger—a review of a portion of the troops lately arrived in Paris. The Emperor was accompanied by Marshal Niel and Marshal Canrobert, Commander-in-Chief of the army of Paris, with a brilliant Staff. On his right was Prince Humbert, in the uniform of an Italian General; and on his left the Viceroy, wearing a magnificently embroidered dress and displaying the cordon of the Legion of Honour. Our own Prince Arthur was there, too, amidst a number of General officers and several Arab chiefs. The troops, which consisted of Algerian

sharpshooters, zouaves, gendarmes of the guard, lancers, and dragoons, numbered some 15,000 men, and were under the command of General Bourbaki, and with him Generals Buncourt and Rosé.

Not the least amusing incident of the visit of the Viceroy occurred during his inspection of the agricultural show at Billancourt, where



CORONATION OF THE KING OF HUNGARY: CONSECRATION OF KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN SPUR.

a young *fermière* presented his Highness with a fat capon—not a gift to be despised; for a fat capon in France is a stupendous as well as a succulent bird. But, as the Viceroy couldn't very well carry the gift himself, he handed it over to a footman and sent a 100*l.* note to the fair donor, who will be distinguished hereafter as having made a handsome present and a good bargain at the same time.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE second act of "Masaniello" was followed at the Royal Italian Opera, on Saturday night, by the Brothers Ricci's "Crispino e la Comare." It was a provoking performance. The second act of "Masaniello" contains that which makes one regret not to have heard the first act, and which disposes one for listening to the third and fourth. But Auber's finest music is not a very suitable preparation for what is very possibly, and for all we know to the contrary, the finest music of the Brothers Ricci. We are half inclined to be sorry when we see Mlle. Adelina Patti playing such a part as that of Mme. Crispino. But one cannot be sorry at seeing Mlle. Patti, whatever part she may undertake, and we end by being exceedingly charmed with her in this as in every other impersonation of hers. Signor Ciampi is very active as the cobbler; and his exertions in the vivacious duet at the end of the first act—in reality half a duet, half a pas de deux—are appreciated and applauded by the audience. But it is Mlle. Patti who is the life and soul of this opera; and, fortunately, each fall of the curtain is preceded by a piece in which the prima donna is prominent, and in which the brilliant singing of Mlle. Patti closes the act with the happiest possible effect.

At Her Majesty's Theatre Mlle. Nilsson has appeared in "Martha," with the same success that attended her previous performance in "La Traviata" and "Faust." We have now seen Mlle. Nilsson in a part which requires to be played with a certain amount of affected recklessness in the earlier scenes, and of genuine pathos in the latter ones. We have seen her in the part of the gentle, timid, innocent, confiding, betrayed Margherita; and we have, moreover, seen her as Lady Henrietta. Nor could her clear soprano tones ever produce a more charming effect than in the lovely "Last Rose of Summer," which is listened to with the deepest attention, and is not only redemanded, but would be redemanded again and again, were it not that Mlle. Nilsson, on being excused, positively refuses to repeat more than the last verse. Mongini's magnificent voice would, it may be thought, be more telling in a more dramatic opera than that of "Martha." The part of Lionello is not precisely in what would generally be considered Mongini's own peculiar style; but Signor Mongini modifies his style to suit the character, and he sings the well-known air "Tu m'appari" with admirable expression and feeling. Mme. Trebelli-Bettini sings the vivacious music of Nancy very delightfully, and enters fully into the spirit of the part. Mr. Santley, as Plunketto, has not much to do, but he does that little remarkably well. He sings every phrase like a true artist, and vaunts the excellence of beer in most exhilarating style. On Monday a morning performance of "Faust" took place, with Mlle. Nilsson in the part of Margherita.

M. and Mme. Ernest Motte gave one of the most successful concerts of the season last Wednesday, at the residence of Mrs. Warner, 49, Grosvenor-place. M. Motte amply exhibited his talent both as composer and artist. Mme. Motte sang with great grace and expression, and the *beneficiaires* were supported by an ample staff of recognised favourites.

The ladies who so courageously and so charitably volunteered on Wednesday to face the public at Exeter Hall in Mr. Schachner's oratorio acquitted themselves admirably of their self-imposed duty. Mrs. Ellicott has a fine soprano voice of considerable volume. She sang with great effect the cavatina of the second part ("Come not, O Lord," &c.) and was also heard to much advantage in the quartet, one of the finest pieces in the oratorio. The Duchess of Newcastle has a light soprano voice of exquisite quality—delicate, flexible, but comparatively deficient in power. In the admirably-written and altogether very beautiful duet (in canon) for soprano and tenor, "Hark! the breeze of eve is calling," the Duchess, jointly with Mr. Hohler, obtained an encore; and her charmingly-expressive rendering of the solo, "Lift up thine eyes," was also redemanded. One of the most effective pieces in "Israel's Return" has always been the fine choral and instrumental setting of "Sound the loud timbrel," which, as usual, had to be repeated. Mr. Foli, too, had to sing one of his solos twice; and both Miss Palmer and Mr. Lyall were repeatedly applauded. But the striking feature of the performance was, we need hardly say, the singing of the two lady amateurs. It was, as the result proved, a most legitimate attraction; and the excellent institution in aid of which the performance took place will greatly benefit by their exertions. There was great applause at the conclusion of the oratorio, and a general call for Mr. Schachner.

THE REVENUE.—The revenue returns for the year and quarter ending June 30, just issued, are highly satisfactory. The revenue for the quarter was £17,781,925, being an increase of £318,261 over the revenue in the corresponding quarter of last year. The revenue for the year was £69,762,829, being an increase over last year of £1,026,393. The elasticity of our resources thus exhibited is wonderful. On the quarter there are only two items in the accounts which show a decrease. These are, excise £116,000, and property tax £20,000. The latter may probably be attributed in some degree to the commercial disasters of the year. On the year there are but two items in which any decrease has taken place. These are, stamps 69,000, and property tax £97,000.

MR. LLOYD GARRISON.—On Saturday last a public breakfast was given, at St. James's Hall, in honour of Mr. William Lloyd Garrison, the leader of the American anti-slavery party in the United States. About 400 persons were present, including a large number of ladies; and the speakers were Mr. Bright (who occupied the chair), the Duke of Argyll, Earl Russell; Mr. Mill, M.P.; Mr. Stansfeld, M.P.; Mr. George Thompson, and Mr. Vernon Harcourt.

LOCOMOTIVES FOR STEEP GRADIENTS.—A short time since we stated that some experiments had been undertaken by Mr. Thomas Page, the eminent engineer, for the purpose of enabling locomotives to ascend steep inclines than those practicable by the ordinary engines. These experiments have been attended with results which, had they been established in the early days of the railway system, would have saved many millions of expenditure. On a model railway, about one-sixth of the full size, worked by a steam locomotive, the ascent of a gradient of 1 in 10 was witnessed by Captain Tyler, Colonel Yolland, Colonel Rich, and Major Hutchinson, the officers of the railway department of the Board of Trade. Since that time another model railway, on which the locomotive was worked by a spring, showed the ascent of 1 in 4, in the presence of General Sir John Fox Bagnall, G.C.B.; Captain Douglas Galton, C.B.; Major Wrottesley, Mr. Brassey; Mr. Blount, of Paris; Mr. Merton; and Messrs. Soldatenkoff and Chiodoff, from Moscow; Mr. Sarguin and Mr. Grub, of St. Petersburg. On a third series of trials the ascent was made of a gradient of 1 in 3, in the presence of Mr. Duncan McGregor and Mr. Herbert, of the Board of Trade; and, lastly, as witnessed by ourselves, the extraordinary result was obtained of the ascent of a gradient of 1 in 2, and there appeared to be no reason why even the gradient of 1 in 2 could not have been accomplished had the arrangements necessary for such a trial been made. It is scarcely necessary to say that these inclines are more severe than anything known in railway practice in this or in any other country, and the experiments were made for the purpose of showing what could be accomplished by the fact of adhesion between the driving wheels of the engine and the surface of the tram. The principle of the arrangement is that there should be the least resistance given to the load to be drawn, but the greatest resistance to the driving-wheels of the locomotive, the surface of which, and of the tram on which they work, are such as to prevent any "slip" of the wheels. In the carrying out of this principle the peripheries of the wheels are made broad and slightly serrated, and the roughness of the tram on which the driving-wheels run is made in proportion to the steepness of the incline. For Alpine locomotives the admirably adapted for branch lines and extensions, which may thus prove valuable feeders to main lines, and more especially valuable at the present time of depression to the railway interest. The tramway for locomotives of this description could be constructed at a cost of not more than £1500 to £1800 per mile, as there would be no occasion for incurring heavy expenditure for tunnels, cuttings, or embankments, such as have involved existing railways in so large a portion of their expenditure. The fact that the locomotives on this system would be able to travel on ordinary inclines points to the possibility of adapting portions of the existing turnpike-roads to this mode of travelling, and we understand that this is in contemplation by Mr. Page and the gentlemen associated with him in carrying out the new system.—*Railway News.*

THE YELVERTON CASE.

THE law Lords have again been occupied in considering one of the saddest and most sorrowful chapters in the romance of the Peerage. After multitudinous defeats and discouragements, after cruel disappointments and unexpectedly adverse judgments, Mrs. Teresa Yelverton has once more come to the bar of the House of Peers in the hope of obtaining a reversal of the previous judgment, which declared that she had failed to make out her case, and that the proof of her marriage with Major Yelverton was insufficient to satisfy the requirements of the law of evidence. Substantially, the object of her present proceeding is to supplement the materials which were before the House on the previous occasion by testimony which, if given at all, she believes would be conclusive in her favour. Technically, however, it is an appeal from a ruling of the Scottish Judges on what is rather a point of practice than a direct decision on the issue which has been so long and so keenly contested by herself and her husband.

The proceedings in the memorable litigation about the first marriage of Major Yelverton commenced in an action tried at Dublin several years ago. Mr. Thelwall, a gentleman in whose house Mrs. Teresa Yelverton had found a home after the honourable and gallant Major had abandoned her, sought to recover from the faithless husband a sum of money for the maintenance of the deserted wife. In form, therefore, the plaintiff relied upon the implied contract into which every man who takes to himself a wife enters to support her in a style suited to his own rank and property. But as, to entitle him to proceed, Mr. Thelwall was bound to prove that the lady was really married to the defendant, the action involved the entire question of the validity or invalidity of the informal marriage or marriages in Scotland and Ireland, about which the world has since heard so much. Major Yelverton, when examined on that occasion, gave evidence on oath which probably went as far as any given against him towards making out the plaintiff's case. Taken in connection with the testimony of the Scottish lawyers who were examined at the trial, it satisfied the jury that there was a marriage in fact, and the Irish Judges that that marriage was binding in law. In Ireland, at least, then, Mrs. Teresa Yelverton was, and we believe still is, entitled to the status of the Major's lawful wife. In consequence of this preliminary and partial success, both parties instituted suits in the Scotch courts to test the validity of the marriage alleged to have been contracted within their jurisdiction, and a majority of the Bench having decided in her favour, the case came before the law Lords on appeal, by whom the decision of the Court below was reversed. But, though doubtless overwhelmed with grief and disappointment at this crushing defeat, the lady was not to be turned from her purpose. Manifest are the mysteries of Caledonian jurisprudence, and difficult is it to say when the last shaft in the quiver of the litigating avenger has been discharged. Mrs. Yelverton accordingly demanded that the Scottish Court of Session should refer the whole matter to the oath of the Major, and thus leave him to prove or disprove his own case by his own sworn testimony. If the version of the transaction which he has throughout set up were in every respect a true one, it would seem that he could have desired no easier or more expeditious way of laying the long-enduring litigation to rest than by explicit denial of Mrs. Yelverton's allegations. Had he done this, however, he would have been confronted with his own evidence, previously given in the trial at Dublin, and thus might have found himself on the horns of a dilemma. Instead of answering the question, therefore, he submitted various reasons why, from regard to himself, his second wife, and their children, he ought to be relieved from the obligation to answer, and these reasons the Court of Session held to be sufficient. Thereupon Mrs. Teresa Yelverton once more appealed to the same exalted tribunal which had upon the previous occasion decided against her, appearing at the bar of the House under circumstances which might well move to pity the most unfeeling of our censors. The years of wearing anxiety through which she has passed have had their influence both upon mind and body. The costs of the litigation have exhausted her resources and compelled her to appear in *forma pauperis*. And at the last moment an untoward accident deprived her of the assistance of her counsel, so that she had to argue her own case in opposition to two of the ablest members of the English Bar. If protracted suffering and unprecedented misfortune could constitute a claim to success in a judicial arena, that success would assuredly be hers.—*Standard.*

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., and president, in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, a reward of £4 10s. was voted to the crew of the society's Rhosolyn life-boat for going off, on the 5th ult., in a gale of wind and very heavy sea and assisting to take to a place of safety the schooner Hope, of Beaumaris, and her crew of three men, which vessel was in a perilous position in Cymmaran Bay, Anglesea; and various other rewards were also granted to the crews of the institution's life-boats at Lytham, Lancashire, and Cahore, Ireland, for putting off during rough weather with the view of rendering assistance to the crews of distressed vessels. Other rewards were also granted for saving life from different wrecks on our coasts. It was reported that during the past month the institution had sent new life-boats to Redcar and Seaton Carew, Yorkshire, and to West Wittering, Sussex. The several railway and steam-packet companies had kindly granted the boats a free conveyance to their destinations. It was also stated that £500 had been received from the city of Worcester life-boat fund, through Captain Saumarez Fraser, R.N., in aid of the Bombridge, Isle of Wight, life-boat station; £400 on account of the life-boat fund being raised amongst licensed victuallers on behalf of the Hunstanton life-boat establishment; and £300 for a new life-boat for Dunkeld, Ireland, from the Stockport Sunday school life-boat fund. The institution decided to place a new life-boat at Kessingland, on the coast of Suffolk. Payments amounting to £1000 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. Mr. Lewis, the secretary of the institution, reported that he had received from the hands of the Emperor of the French the Grand Prize of Honour, awarded to the National Life-boat Institution in acknowledgment of its great services to sailors of all nations when shipwrecked on our shores. The medal is a magnificent work of art, and weighs about twelve ounces. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who sat next the Sultan, who was on the right of the Emperor, appeared much pleased at this great tribute to the English Life-boat Institution, he having only recently presided over its annual meeting at the Mansion House. Reports were read from the Inspector and the assistant inspector of life-boats of the society on their recent visits to different life-boat stations. Most favourable accounts have been received of several of the safety fishing-boats of the institution. The proceedings then terminated.

THE SILVER MINT OF JAPAN.—If we could gain admission to the Silver Mint at Jeddo we should see the following process continually going on. A lump of silver of the necessary fineness, obtained either from the Government mines or by melting down Mexican dollars, is placed in an iron ladle and reduced to a molten state by means of a charcoal fire and a pair of blacksmith's bellows. It is then poured into a mould, from which it is taken out in the shape of thin rectangular bars, which are immediately thrown into a tub of cold water. On being taken out, a man seated on the ground shears off, with a pair of large fixed scissors, all jagged pieces adhering to the angles. They are now handed to another man, who weighs them one by one, and a piece is cut off, if necessary, to reduce the bar to its proper weight. The next process is that of dividing the bar by a fixed pair of shears into eight equal portions of the size of ichibu; this is done by a workman cutting it as accurately as his practised eye will enable him, and his work is tested by weighing, light pieces being rejected, and the heavy ones reduced to their proper weight by the scissors. The pieces are now heated white hot in a charcoal fire, plunged into water, boiled, and washed in a kind of brine, from which they come out with a moderately bright surface. They are next very slightly milled on the two sides, and more deeply on the edges, by means of a milled hammer. They are now ready for stamping. A man places one of the pieces on a stationary die, and lays on the top the other die; a second man, armed with a huge hammer, gives one blow on the upper die, and the coin is struck. The blows are dealt in rapid succession, and the whole scene reminds one of a blacksmith's shop. Boys now punch small stars on the edges by means of chisels and hammers. The coins are weighed one by one for the last time, and the light ones rejected. The Imperial stamp is added by means of another stamped chisel and mallet, and the coins are complete. They are rolled up in paper packets of one hundred; each packet is weighed and marked with a seal, which serves as a guarantee of its contents, and gives it currency as one hundred ichibu. While every operation is performed in this primitive manner, perfect order prevails in the establishment; every man goes through his portion of the work in silence and with the regularity of clockwork, and many evince considerable skill. There are about 300 hands employed in the building. When the men enter in the morning they are made to divest themselves of their own clothes and to put on others belonging to the Mint. At the end of the day's work a gong sounds, when the somewhat curious spectacle is presented of 300 men springing from the ground, on which they have been seated, throwing off their clothes, and rushing, a naked throng, to one end of a yard. Here they pass through the following ordeal in order to prove that they have no silver on them:—Their back hair is pulled down and examined, they wash their hands and hold them up to view, they drink water, and then hollow, and, lastly, they run to the other end of the yard, clearing two or three hurdles on their way; after which performance they are allowed to put on their own clothes and depart. Mr. Sidney Locomot, her Majesty's Secretary of Legation, from whose report of this year these statements are taken, believes that the Mint has been only twice entered by foreigners, and states that the apparent absence of all restrictions with regard to touching and handling the coins points to the probability that it is not often open to the public; but he remarks that, even if it were, the manners and customs of the country are not such as would preclude a mixed assemblage of visitors from going over it and remaining to the end. The quantity of silver being coined daily at the beginning of this year was 50,000 monme, which, at the rate of 23 monme to the ichibu, would give a daily total issue of over 21,000 bars, or about £1500. The whole of these are produced by the simplest manual labour, unaided by a single piece of machinery.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A TERRIBLE railway disaster took place about half past eleven on Saturday morning last, at Walton junction, where the London line branches to Chester, half a mile from Warrington. The 10.23 train from Liverpool to Birmingham and London left Bank Quay station at 11.25, taking up several passengers, and on approaching Walton junction the driver saw ahead a coal train, which efforts were being made to shunt on to the Chester line. He did not deem it necessary to slacken speed, not doubting that the way would be clear. The coal trucks, however, had scarcely left the main line when the passenger train reached the points. The pointsman omitted to turn them; and the passenger-engine went smash into the rear of the coal-trucks. The scene was then indescribable. The forepart of the passenger-engine (the driver and fireman of which escaped with comparatively slight injuries, having jumped for their lives when they saw a collision inevitable) was driven right into the breakman's van of the coal-train, and firmly lodged there. The first two or three of the passenger-carriages—one in particular, a second class—were smashed to atoms and overturned. Here the frightful carnage took place. The carriage to which we allude was full of passengers, all, or nearly all, from Liverpool. Several coal-trucks in the centre of the train—three waggons from the end—were broken to pieces, and their contents scattered upon the line. One after another, as the remains of the front carriages were removed, the mutilated bodies of men and women were taken up and conveyed to places of safety. All the doctors in Warrington whose services were available were sent for, and they responded without a moment's hesitation, attending to the wounded, and doing all that human efforts could to allay their sufferings. Five persons were killed on the spot, two more have since died, and about thirty-three are more or less injured. One of the passenger-carriages was divested of every fragment of the sides and top, the bare bottom and wheels alone remaining. Another was lying upon its side, and to remove it a hawser was attached and it was dragged for some distance in that position by one of the engines; then, by the united strength of about a score of men, it was overturned, leaving the line clear. The uninjured passengers were sitting upon the grassy slope of the railway—ladies, gentlemen, and children together—many of the former with infants in their arms, having scarcely overcome the shock which they had received. Some were weeping and evidently in a state of great trepidation; and many were the congratulations which passed from mouth to mouth on the hair-breadth escape which one and all seemed to have experienced. Several had contusions, cut hands, and other injuries; but their wounds were not such as demanded immediate attention. One gentleman who had had a providential escape stated that he was seated in the carriage next to that which was smashed to atoms. Immediately before the final crash, he felt that a collision was inevitable; it seemed, he said, to come on "gradually," and he made an effort to get out by the door, but found himself blocked in. The carriage was overturned. Having received no severe injuries, and having fortunately been able to preserve his presence of mind, he managed to crawl out. "A lady," he said, "in the same carriage was killed; she was on the same seat with me, sitting next to the window. I was at her elbow. When the crash came, I sprang from the seat and got down, then the carriage went over, and I found my way out."

An inquest has been opened on the bodies of some of the victims, but no evidence as to the cause of the occurrence has yet been elicited. The pointsman has been suspended and placed under the surveillance of the police.

THE YORKSHIRE HAY HARVEST.—The hot, forcing weather of the past week has induced a general start with the hay harvest in Yorkshire. Clevens have come down rapidly, and a very fair average of grass has been mown. The grass-mower is now very generally in use, and answers remarkably well this year, the crops being all erect and heavy—so heavy, indeed, as to require three instead of two horses. Everywhere the crops are excellent, and if the present weather continues they will be remarkably well won. There is very little old hay in the country. All corn crops look well, the wheat being deemed rather light. Peas, potatoes, and turnips are good so far.

DR. LUSHINGTON.—The venerable Dr. Lushington is unable to attend to his official duties in consequence of indisposition. He has not sat for some days in the Court of Admiralty, and no sitting for the present week has been appointed. In the event of the bill now before Parliament passing for the appointment of additional Judges, it is understood that Dr. Lushington will resign, and it is rumoured that the Queen's Advocate (Sir Robert Phillimore) and Mr. Brett, Q.C., M.P., will be associated with Sir James P. Wilde, and officiate, one in probate and ecclesiastical matters, and the other in Admiralty cases.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE BARRACKS.—On Monday an unusually influential deputation waited upon the Secretary for War. It was introduced by Earl Grosvenor, and consisted of a number of the principal residents in the neighbourhood of Knightsbridge Barracks. Mr. Lowe, M.P., the chief spokesman, explained the grievances he and his neighbours had in reference to the existence of Knightsbridge Barracks, and dilated upon its unsightliness and unhealthy condition. Sir John Pakington, in reply, intimated that the disposition of the Government was rather to improve than to remove the barracks.

EXCITING SCENE AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—On Friday week a scene of a most exciting nature occurred at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park. It appears that a countryman, while looking at the bears, accidentally dropped his hat into the pit, and to recover it, had the foolhardiness to descend. As soon as he got to the bottom he was seized by one of the bears, and immediately two others came from their cage and also seized him, and began dragging him towards it. Some sticks were thrown to him by the excited lookers-on; but, fortunately, one of the keepers went to the man's assistance and succeeded in setting him free.

MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL.—The bill presented to the House of Lords by the Duke of Richmond provides for the licensing of manufacturers of lime or lemon juice and other acidulities for ships' use, and the licensing of persons to supply or sell them, and also for the appointment of medical inspectors at the ports, the remuneration of the latter to be paid out of the mercantile marine fund. Masters or owners of foreign-going ships, except ships bound for European or Mediterranean ports, or to the eastern coast of America (or Atlantic islands) north of lat. 35° N., are required, under penalties, to obtain from a bonded warehouse a sufficient quantity of lime or lemon juice provided by a licensed manufacturer and approved by the medical inspector, with 15 per cent of proof spirits (free of duty) added in the presence of the Customs' officer, properly corked and secured, an ounce per man to be served daily after being at sea ten days, and other acidulities (if any) as may be directed by order of the Board of Trade. In British colonies the Governor is to have the power here given by the Board of Trade. Seamen incapable of duty through illness caused by their own wilful act or default are to lose wages for the time; but if a seaman or apprentice who is ill has not been provided with proper food, accommodation, and anti-scorbutics, then, unless it can be shown that illness was produced by other causes, the owner or master is to be liable to pay all expenses of such illness incurred by the seaman, or the Government, or any parochial authority. A clause makes provision for securing a proper space on board for each seaman or apprentice, and for its being kept clear, and for other proper accommodation. The medical inspector at any port may, with consent of the parties, examine a seaman before his engagement, and report whether he is in a fit state for duty. The last clause of the bill provides that any offence committed on board a foreign ship on the high seas by a British subject who does not belong to such ship may be tried and punished as if it had been committed by him on board a British ship on the high seas.

A MYSTERIOUS OCCURRENCE.—A few days ago a mason was eating his dinner near an old pit at Raynham when some one said to him, "You are sitting in a sweet place; can't you smell something?" He got up after having lighted a pipe, and went to the mouth of a pit, where he saw something white at the bottom. Two girls passed him; one said it looked like a baby. He went at once and fetched two engineers and a policeman; and James Joseph, a pit carpenter, went down with a rope round his body. When he got to the bottom he found the object to be the body of a woman named Thomas, who was engaged to be married to one William Prothero, and who had not been seen since she left her brother's house, nearly a week previous. The first inquest has been held, but stands adjourned, the only evidence adduced being that of her sister-in-law, who said she was perfectly sound in mind. Mr. Lewis Redwood, M.D., who examined the body, found the head smashed, and both arms and one leg broken, the fall down the pit being sufficient to cause death. Sergeant Marten said her hair was dishevelled, her head dashed to pieces, a red mark on her neck, and the fingers of the left hand clinched. Mrs. Berbow, who laid the body out, said the arms were broken, her breast much scratched, there was a hole in her left hand, the right thigh broken, and the hips black and blue with bruises. William Prothero, the lover, to whom suspicion attached itself, produced a paper showing how his whole time had been employed from the time the woman was missed till her body was found, and the Coroner exonerated him from all suspicion. The affair remains a mystery.

LAW AND CRIME.

It is a most common idiosyncrasy of the criminal nature that when at last hunted down by the law, the criminal regards himself as an ill-used being, the victim of circumstances. Society is, to him, in the wrong; the witnesses against him are false, the jury prejudiced, and the Judge severe. One can never hold converse with a thorough-paced detected scoundrel without ascertaining that he regards himself as a wronged individual. The exceptions to this curious rule are but few, where there is exhibited penitence, real or affected. There appears good reason for this apparent anomaly when the matter is philosophically considered. The confusion between the ideas of right and wrong, the lack of capacity to understand why one should not pursue his own apparent advantage without consideration of the resulting detriment to another—these lie at the foundation of nearly all crime. The Sheffield confessions are but illustrations of a principle which might be exemplified by half the cases brought before a police court. The union assassins, in justification of murders committed years ago, tell us that their combinations are unrecognised by law, and therefore they are forced into illegal measures to enforce their rules. It happens that only within the last few weeks it has been judicially decided that these societies are so far illegal that their defaulting treasurers cannot be prosecuted for embezzlement. Yet upon this judgment is founded the one sole extenuation of an organised system of assassination. Some of our contemporaries have dwelt upon this excuse. It is simply based upon an utter mistake. Trades unions are legal enough—nay, so far, more than legal, that they may claim legal protection and, furthermore, assistance, if they will only modify their rules so as to be in accordance with the statute. They may be registered under the Friendly Societies' Act; the members may, after such registration, legally enforce payment of allowances for sickness or misfortune; they may prosecute defaulting officers; they may support co-members when out of work. Beyond this, they are entitled to such a supervision of their accounts as would render malversation all but impossible. If they prefer to keep closed accounts, to enjoin rules illegally restricting labour, to exercise organised intimidation and annoyance upon non-members, to allow a margin for the payment of idle ruffians, ready and willing—rather than starve or work—to commit any crime from cowardly assault to murder and arson—who is to blame but themselves? Can they for a moment suppose that the picketing system, as one may see it in operation any day in the West End streets, is anything but most gross, illegal tyranny? Suppose that any set of religionists were to "picket" the members of another sect, follow them to their houses from their churches, conventicles, or meeting-houses, and force argument upon them with a view to their conversion; suppose the same thing done, politically, by Tories, Whigs, or Radicals in reference to those differing from them in opinion—would this be legal or a nuisance? Yet this pretence of argument, with a view of persuasion or dissuasion, is the only pretext by which the "picketers" attempt to defend their system. Repudiation, after the fact, is simply hypocritical. Why, the fellow Broadhead was the very first to pretend horror at the villainies he himself had prompted and paid for! And instead of routing this infamous hirer of assassins, the men of Sheffield through his tap, and swill in his presence and to his profit, while he urges that he has been hardly dealt by in not having been paid for his loss of time while engaged in confessing his complicity in theft, incendiarism, and murder!*

Here is another example, this time from a bigamist. A prisoner, proved to have committed bigamy, was brought up at Bow-street. He said of his first wife, "When I married her I was very young, she being six years older than I am. I had not discovered until lately that she had been keeping company with another man. She used to meet the postman every morning and take the letters from him." The magistrate retorted, "You seem to think, because you have been wronged by one wife that you must inflict an injury upon another."

In a case at the Middlesex Sessions the prisoner had stolen from one man a watch, value £15, and from another a watch and chain, value £40. His excuse was, "I might as well be locked up as starve." This availed him but little, as he was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

The rogue who was caught pilaging the poor-box at the Roman Catholic Church, Moorfields, and upon whom were found a half sovereign and some silver, claimed mercy on the ground that he really had only taken threepence, and that the other moneys were his own. Whereupon Mr. Alderman Abbiss very sensibly observed that this made matters worse, for with so much of his own he nevertheless robbed the poor.

The organised roughs of London consider it very hard upon them that they should be punished for robbing honest folk of their watches. A gang of thieves, male and female, all notorious characters, and all of whom had been previously convicted, were brought up at the Clerkenwell Police Court, and found such strong—not to say violent—sympathy, that but for the strenuous exertions of the police they would have been rescued.

A "commission agent" was robbed of his watch by a street thief. During the same night the robbed person was impressed by what he oddly denominates a "presentiment," to the effect that the watch had been disposed of at a certain shop in Long-acre which the "commission agent" had often noticed. Tailor went the "commission agent" and found his watch, which, although the works were still going, had been subjected to a divorce between the case and movements, and had been, by the shopkeeper's account, disposed of to him as a worn-out article for £19s. The shopkeeper was taken into custody, and remanded for a week by Mr. Vaughan, of Bow-street, who announced his determination to send the case for trial. From which arises a moral, addressed to thieves only: Never rob "commission agents," lawyers practising in the Criminal Courts, or detective policemen. They are all liable to "presentiments" as to the place of business of probable receivers of

stolen goods, and such presentiments may chance to be realised. But, as it may be somewhat difficult to distinguish between the three classes named and the general public, perhaps the better plan will be to relinquish theft altogether.

COMMON PLEAS.

A THEATRICAL SQUABBLE.—**TILBURY V. WILTON AND ANOTHER.**—The plaintiff in this case, Mrs. Tilbury, is the widow of the late Mr. Tilbury, but is better known to the public as Miss Lydia Thompson; and the defendants are Miss Maria Wilton and Mr. Byron, the lessees of the Prince of Wales's Theatre; and the action was to recover damages for the breach of an engagement to continue the services of Miss Thompson at that theatre. The defendants pleaded several pleas, and among them that the plaintiff had refused to obey certain orders, and that this justified the defendants in dismissing her.

Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., and Mr. M. Williams appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Serjeant Ballantine and Mr. Manly Smith for the defendants.

Miss Lydia Thompson was called, and said Mr. Anderson introduced the subject of the engagement to me when I was at Liverpool, and on the 17th of August, at Manchester, I wrote the memorandum of agreement and sent it to Miss Wilton. On the return of post I received a paper, dated Aug. 18, and signed by the defendant. I commenced playing at the defendant's theatre about the 15th of September, and continued playing until Christmas, and received £15 a week. I played in a farce called the "Pas de Fatale," and in "Der Freischütz," and in the comedy of "Ours." In this last I took Miss Wilton's part, she being away in consequence of a domestic calamity. I did not operate dancing. Afterwards I played in the pantomime at Drury Lane; but did not dance in consequence of having strained my knee at the Prince of Wales's. The pantomime ran until nearly Easter, and before Easter I wrote to Miss Wilton about renewing the engagement. (The witness, in continuation, detailed the correspondence which had taken place.) I had introduced the Shadow Dance into "Magic Toys," but had abandoned it for five or six years. It was an operatic dance, and required great practice to keep up at it. In 1866 it was not a dance that was in my "line of business." I told Mr. Young, when he came to the part, that I could not do the Shadow Dance, as I had given up operatic dancing many years. I said, "You know the Sailor's Hornpipe: I will dance that." It was only sixteen bars, but it is repeated as long as necessary in dancing. When we came to the Hungarian Dance, I said I had not the music, and Mr. Young asked me to dance a Highland fling. I said that would be simply absurd in Hungarian costume (laughter). I brought the Hungarian Dance and the music from Pesth. Nothing more was said, and I intended to do a mazurka instead of it. Mr. Young gave me no time to make any explanation. Subsequently, the rehearsal was dismissed, and I left; and afterwards I was informed that my services would not be required. The Shadow Dance was no part of the piece. I introduced it myself. I introduced all the dances.

To the Judge—I had danced the Shadow Dance at Madame Celeste's and at Glasgow. This was quite six years ago. I have no recollection of Mr. Young proposing to substitute another dance for the Shadow Dance.

Examination continued.—"Benefit terms after £20," means after £20 expenses. I should share the house. I expect to get £25 at least from the benefit at Birkenhead; I have had £30, and at Liverpool £36. Miss Wilton was going to Manchester and Liverpool. At the Prince of Wales's Theatre I should expect to receive £50 for my benefit, for I should receive presents from my friends; perhaps I should have £10 for a box.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine—Your benefit night is the time for your friends to remember you (a laugh).

Cross examined.—No one has played "Magic Toys" but myself. My dances were encores, but not twice. I was never so liberal as that (A laugh).

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine—I believe that the hornpipe dance is no joke.

Witness.—If you were to try it, you would soon find out (laughter).

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine—It is a dance without a partner, is it not?

Witness.—Yes.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine—Then I won't dance it (Renewed laughter).

Witness continued.—I take five characters in "Magic Toys." I never refused to dance more than sixteen bars in the Sailor's Hornpipe. It would ruin my reputation as an artist to dance no more than sixteen bars. There was originally a Cossack dance in the piece, and I introduced a Hungarian dance instead. One reason was that I had lost part of my dress.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine—Then the Hungarian dance required a shorter dress (laughter).

Witness.—Oh no. I could not dance the Hungarian dance, because I had lost my music, and therefore I refused to dance it.

After some further evidence on each side, the case terminated by the delivery of a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, one farthing, with leave to move on a point of law reserved, so that the parties might throw away more money on it if they liked. The Lord Chief Justice advised them to let it rest.

POLICE.

CAPTURE OF A GANG OF BURGLARS.—Henry Pettit, aged fifty-five; Betsy Pettit, his wife; Arthur Pettit, twenty-two; and Sarah Pettit, fifteen, son and daughter of the first-named prisoners; Harriett Mitchell, alias Hall, twenty-one; Henry George Hall, twenty; and Eliza Smith, twenty-two, were charged with committing several burglaries and robberies in the parishes of Stepney and Limehouse. The prisoners were all captured at No. 24, Salisbury-street, Bow-common, and when apprehended part of the stolen property was found on the persons of the females. On Friday night the dwelling-house of Mr. David Parrott, 28, St. Dunstan's-road, Stepney, was entered, and from it were stolen several articles of women's underclothing, five shirts, a child's frock, and various other articles. It so happened that Mrs. Parrott's aunt lived next door to the prisoners, and she, identifying some of the clothes the prisoners were wearing as those lost by her niece, gave information to the police, who, on searching the prisoners' residence, found a great quantity of property stolen from houses in the neighbourhood, which was identified by the owners.

Mr. Paget committed the prisoners for trial on two charges of burglary, and remanded them on the others.

JUDICIAL SEVERITY.—Two respectably-dressed young men, named Charles Woodman and Thomas Watkin, were charged with wilfully breaking several public lamps in the Fulham-road and Chancery-lane, Hammersmith, by throwing large stones at them.

The prisoners were followed by Thomas East, the lamp-lighter, who, in attempting to secure them, was thrown down and kicked. Woodman had been convicted before for a similar offence.

The prisoners did not deny breaking the lamps. Woodman said he was not sober.

One of the officers of the London Gas Company came forward to state that there were continual complaints of the lamps being broken in Fulham. Between 200 and 300 panes of glass had been broken in the lamps this year.

Mr. Ingham said the warning Woodman had received had not taken any effect. He should now make an example of him, and commit him to prison for two months, with hard labour. The other prisoner he committed for fourteen days, with hard labour.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND EXTRAORDINARY RECOVERY OF THE PROPERTY.

MR. G. B. GALLAWAY, commission agent, of 83, Gower-street, waited upon Mr. Vaughan, at Bow-street Police Court, and informed him that on Monday evening, as he was walking along Oxford-street at about half-past ten o'clock, he took out his watch, and was looking at it by the light of a tavern window, when it was suddenly

snatched from his hand by a young man, who succeeded in snapping the chain in two and escaping with the property. Witness gave information at the police station and returned home; but during the night he had a presentiment that his watch would be taken to a certain shop in Long-acre, which he had often noticed, and sold. He communicated his suspicions to the police the next morning, and went there himself at about eleven o'clock, in company with a friend, the Rev. Mr. Bligh. He inquired of the shopkeeper, Mr. Parker, of 19, Long-acre, if he had had a portion of a gold chain offered to him for sale like the piece in witness's hand; and he replied that he had not. As witness was turning round to leave the shop he accidentally caught sight of a watchcase lying on a bench, which he instantly recognised as his own. He looked at it, and asked Mr. Parker how he came by it. He replied that he bought it of a young man half an hour ago. Witness looked round and saw the movements of the watch on another bench, which he also identified. Parker said he bought the case for £1 and the movements for 9s. 6d., as a worn-out watch. Witness asked how that could be, for the movements were still going and keeping excellent time. The maker's name on the case had been scratched off. Witness said, "I consider you have received this watch under very questionable circumstances," and called in a police officer. Parker said witness might have the watch back again, as he was willing to deliver it up; but witness insisted, on public grounds, in having the matter investigated. The constable took possession of the watch, and witness now applied for a warrant requiring Parker to attend and explain his possession of the property.

A summons having been granted and issued at once, the shopkeeper, George Parker, attended, and the prosecutor repeated his statement in the presence of the defendant. He was confirmed by the Rev. Mr. Bligh, Serjeant Chappell, P. 4, deposed that he questioned defendant, who, in reply, said that the young man who sold the watch gave the name of John Roberts, but left no address. He was a stranger, and sold it as a "worn-out watch." The defendant, who had declined to ask the witnesses any questions, was proceeding to make a statement, when he was stopped by Mr. Vaughan, who said he did not mean to dispose of the case. The defendant would be remanded for a week, and then the matter would go for trial. Bail would be accepted. Defendant.—But surely you will hear my statement in defence?—Mr. Vaughan: I shall not. You had an opportunity of putting questions to the witnesses, and declined it. Defendant: I never heard of such a thing. The prosecutor demanded a warrant, on public grounds, to search the premises of the defendant, to ascertain if the remainder of his gold chain was there. These outrages in the public streets were of daily occurrence, and the case ought to be fully investigated. Defendant: It is probable that there may be hundreds of pieces of chain like yours in my shop. I buy such things; it is my trade. As for a search-warrant, a dozen policemen may go to my place if you like.—Mr. Vaughan: If you consent, then, there is no reason for a search-warrant to issue. Defendant: Of course I shall be allowed to accompany the police. I would not permit my things to be pulled about and damaged anyhow.—Mr. Vaughan: If you can get bail you may go with the officers. The defendant's solicitor, Mr. Piesse, attended shortly afterwards, expressed his astonishment at the charge, and offered bail to any amount. The case was then remanded for a week, and the defendant accompanied the officer and prosecutor to his shop.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THE dealings in Home Stocks have been only moderate; nevertheless, prices have been supported. Consols, for Money, have marked 94½; Ditto, for Account, 94½; Reduced and New Three per Cent. 94½; Exchequer Bills, 20s. to 27s. prem. Indian Securities have been steady.

Money has been in improved request, at 2½ per cent. for the best short bills.

In the Foreign Exchange very little business has been done; and in the principal securities, including, varying from 1 to 1 per cent., has taken place. Spanish Securities, however, have improved in value.—Brazilian, 94 to 100; Ditto, 1866, 64 to 76; Ditto, 1863, 63 to 66; Ditto, 1865, 74 to 75; Buenos Ayres, 81 to 83; Ditto Deferred, 30 to 38; Chilean, 91 to 101; Ditto, 1867, 80 to 82; Ditto, 1868, 83 to 85; Danubian, 61 to 63; Ditto, 1867, 60 to 62; Ecuador, 12 to 13; Egyptian, 81 to 83; Ditto, 1864, 80 to 81; Greek, 14 to 14½; Italian, 1865, 70 to 72; Mexican, 16 to 16½; Moorish, 91 to 95; New Granada, 12½ to 13; Peruvian 1865, 15 to 16 ex div.; Ditto, 1862, 74 to 76 ex div.; Portuguese, 1863, 40½ to 41½ ex div.; Russian, 1864, 56½ to 57; Ditto, 1860, 86 to 88 ex div.; Ditto, 1863, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1864, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1865, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1866, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1867, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1868, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1869, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1870, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1871, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1872, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1873, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1874, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1875, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1876, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1877, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1878, 48 to 50; Ditto, 1879, 48 to 50; 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by THOMAS FOX, 2, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.2. —
SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1897.